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The Nation

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1911.

The Week

Senator Nelson of Minnesota has never ranked high among Constitutional lawyers, which is perhaps why it was left to him to discover that President Taft had exceeded his powers under the Constitution in making the Canadian agreement. The argument apparently is that the President can negotiate a treaty but cannot make a pact. We can easily understand why the opponents of reciprocity with Canada devoutly wish that the measure had come before the Senate in the form of a treaty. In that case, one more than a minority of one third could defeat it. And it is plainly the fact that the pending bill requires approval by only a majority, which increases the rage against it as "destructive," to use Senator Nelson's words, "of the independence of the legislative department of the government." Indeed, the Senator has made the discovery that "the President is depriving the farmers of this country of their Constitutional protection in a two-thirds vote of the Senate." But surely the Senate is not only independent but absolutely free and easy about reciprocity. It can talk about it till the crack of doom, if it so desires. It can take or leave the bill. Nobody is attempting coercion; nobody is coerced. Let Senator Nelson waive for the moment his painful Constitutional scruples. There stands the Canadian pact. No matter how it was got into shape for submission to Congress, submitted to Congress it is. Is it a good thing or not? If it is, Congress should approve it without wasting time over speculating what the bill would have been if devised by some other people in some other way.

Attorney-General Wickersham scored a strong point against the proposed Arizona Constitution, in his address at Yale on Monday. He pointed out how utterly unstable the Constitution itself would be under the provisions contained in it for its own amendment. To initiate such an amendment would require only the proposal of it by 15 per cent. of the number of persons who had vot-

ed in the last preceding election for Governor; and, once so proposed, all that would be necessary for its adoption would be a majority of the whole number of votes cast on the subject of the amendment, no matter how small that number might be. Of course, a Constitution amendable in this way is not a Constitution at all, in the sense in which we have been accustomed to think of such an institution. It might easily happen that less than one-tenth of the voting population proposed an amendment; and it would be in no way strange if the total vote on the proposition was so small that it would be carried by a vote in its favor comprising only one-fifth of the total voting population, or even less. Under such a scheme of government, said Mr. Wickersham, a small organized minority of the qualified electors might accomplish a change in the Constitution before the great majority of the electors were aware of what was going on.

In response to the offer of the New York Clearing House Association for admission of trust companies to its membership on certain prescribed terms, sixteen trust companies have already entered on such relations. The total number of trust companies in Greater New York being forty-four, it follows that twenty-eight institutions remain as yet outside the Clearing House. Of these, however, fifteen have a capital stock less than the \$1,000,000 minimum fixed by the Clearing House as preliminary to admission. Some of the fifteen doubtless will qualify, and all of them may do so, through increasing their capital. In addition, there are left, outside the Clearing House, thirteen trust companies whose capital is sufficient for membership but who have not applied for it. Some of the institutions in this last-named group are among the largest and most important institutions of their class; they have taken the ground that their own business is so preëminently of the old-fashioned trustee sort that the need of Clearing House participation does not apply to them. Others of the group may yet decide to apply for admission.

It will thus be seen that although

considerably less than half of the trust companies in Greater New York have joined the Clearing House Association under the new rule, there is nevertheless a prospect that the majority of these institutions will eventually have taken that action. Even as matters stand, a highly important and salutary change has been brought about in the New York banking position. It must never be forgotten that Clearing-House membership signifies not only that checks drawn on member institutions may be exchanged and collected without the cumbersome machinery of personal presentation and payment in full in cash, but also that any member institution will be able to command, in an emergency, the united support of the other Clearing House institutions. If the panic of October, 1907, has taught no other lesson, it has proved convincingly the dangers which beset financial institutions standing alone with no existing machinery for united support against the common danger. Perhaps it cannot be said that the problem would be wholly solved by admission to the Clearing House Association of only a majority of the city's trust companies. But compared with the confusion, mutual suspicion, and total lack of coöperation or organization, with which these institutions drifted into the great financial storm of three and a half years ago, the state of things, even now, is such as to furnish cause for great congratulation.

One of the current misconceptions of the possibilities of our trade with Latin America is due, says Mr. H. M. Kahler in the last number of the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, to the over-anxiety of advocates of a ship subsidy. They belittle existing shipping facilities, until many Americans believe that we have none at all to South American points. Freight to these countries are carried almost entirely in foreign bottoms, but so they are to nearly all others. There never has been any lack of carriers for goods which we can sell abroad. Thus two questions are confused. Another misconception which, in Mr. Kahler's opinion, is of wide and disastrous effect, has to do with credits. Many American manufacturers refrain absolutely from

entry into the Latin-American field because of an impression that success there requires long-time and hazardous credits. Nothing could be further from the fact. "Of our present very creditable showing of sales to Latin America—or about one-eighth of that territory's total imports—it is conservative to state that more than one-half are cash transactions." And, he adds, the level of business morality in all Latin America is far higher than here. Fraudulent bankruptcy is nearly impossible, and the largest shippers testify that their losses abroad are negligible as compared with those at home.

Gen. Wood's plan for a short-term enlistment in the army would be of little value unless a method could be worked out by which the recruits should be enlisted at fixed times and thoroughly drilled by specially capable officers. He proposed six months of service in the hope of attracting the boy just out of college or about to enter business. Now, in France and Germany certain students who have passed a special examination denoting accomplishments about equivalent to the completion of the sophomore year in our colleges are permitted to serve one year, instead of three. But they enter at a given time, and are trained systematically in the school of the soldier and the company, until toward the end of the year they are ready to take their part in the regimental, brigade, and division drills, and finally in the great manœuvres. All of this is carried on under a pressure of work and in a feverish activity never dreamed of in this country. The iron character of the discipline is also unknown here. But it is only by this really extraordinary forcing process that the finished German soldier is turned out at the end of a year. No Prussian martinet would, we are sure, undertake to turn out a really trained soldier in six months. The uneducated soldier serves two years; the educated one, if he possesses the necessary qualities, becomes at once an active officer or a member of the reserve, and returns to his regiment for six weeks' training for some years thereafter.

Should Gen. Wood's scheme go into effect to-morrow without the working out of a regular course of training, the young college man Gen. Wood seeks

would, when enlisted, be assigned to a recruit depot, where he might or might not be well trained. There would be no guarantee that he would get the same kind of training as his cousin from Yale at another recruit depot. Recruit depots, moreover, are not always attractive places to be immured in for six months, and the average sergeant is a pretty rough customer to place over a lad fresh from the academic shades. Should such a recruit wish to join a regiment his actual training would again be affected by his luck in drawing a sergeant who was a good drill master. He might easily serve six months and never see an entire regiment parade or march more than two or three miles a few times. In many posts, he would be bored to death for lack of work. It is said that no less than 3,000 men have deserted from our army on the Mexican border. This is probably an exaggeration; but the reason given—overwork and fatigue—shows how "soft" the men had grown in their garrisons and would make every Continental soldier rub his eyes in amazement. The college recruit would like life under canvas, and plenty of field work. It would be an exception if he got it and, in most cases, he would return to civil life with that little knowledge which even in matters military is a dangerous thing. Finally the cost of equipping and transporting the six months' soldier would be very heavy, especially if there were created provisional regiments to make possible his progressive training from the A B C of the manual of arms to the intricacies of regimental drill, guard duty, etc.

The confirmation of William H. Lewis, the able Boston colored lawyer, as Assistant Attorney-General of the United States, without the expected opposition, marks, we hope, the beginning of a new era in dealing with such appointments. Mr. Lewis will be the holder of the most important office under the Federal government ever filled by a colored man. When the Crum nomination was under fire, a frequent Southern question was why Northern colored men were not selected for office. The present appointment is but one of a number of answers to this question. There was no rational ground for any opposition to Mr. Lewis. Both at Amherst and Harvard, where he was a famous athlete, he was socially popular because of his sterling qualities,

and as Assistant United States District Attorney in Massachusetts, his record, carefully studied by Mr. Taft, was of the best. To say that such a man should not rise in the government service is surely to take quite as illiberal a view as that which would bar to men of Jewish parentage and humble origin the right to rise in our military or naval service.

Among the coronation honors which were announced in London last week, there is one that is of great interest to Americans. Dr. William Osler, who is to be made a baronet, was born in Canada and never renounced his allegiance as a Briton; but it was as professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University and medical head of the Johns Hopkins Hospital that he did the work, and exercised the influence, which gave him his world-wide reputation. The Regius Professorship of Medicine at Oxford, which he has held since 1905, was an honor that came to him when he had passed the age of fifty-five; and it came at the close of sixteen years of work in Baltimore which will never be forgotten by the colleagues with whom he was associated, or by the hundreds of students to whom the inspiration they derived from him was a priceless benefit. The influence he exerted was due no less to the extraordinary charm of a rare and poetic personality than to his gifts and attainments as a physician and a scholar. That he should not have remained in our country to the end, must ever be a source of keen regret; but it is easy to understand that the attractions of Oxford, to a man in whom both literary taste and the historic sense are so highly developed as they are in Dr. Osler, were irresistible.

The decision of the Trustees of Wellesley College to continue the Wellesley tradition by the appointment of a woman president has been welcomed with keen satisfaction by those interested in the maintenance of opportunities for women engaged in the higher fields of intellectual endeavor. Their satisfaction is no more than the occasion warrants. The successorship to Miss Hazard had taken on the character of a test case. Miss Pendleton had been dean of the college for ten years, and her work in that post, it seems to have been admitted on all hands, had been

admirable. She had been acting president for the past eight months, and had shown her fitness for the duties of the office, and college sentiment pointed emphatically to her selection. In short, the question was virtually not a personal one at all, but a question of principle—or, what is still more important, a question of mental attitude.

If Wellesley, after 'ts long tradition of women presidents, and able women presidents, had turned from the appointment of a woman, especially when a highly capable successor was at hand, the decision would have meant not only the adoption of the principle of the ineligibility of women for the college presidency, but something more far-reaching than that. It would have furnished the strongest kind of indication that Wellesley would hereafter gravitate more and more toward the attitude, so frequently manifested in other women's colleges, of preferring men to women in the higher teaching positions—the full professorships and often even the associate professorships. It is an anomaly that women should be permitted to enter upon an intellectual career and should not be permitted to look forward to the natural rewards of successful labor. It is still more of an anomaly when this impediment exists in institutions devoted to the higher education of women.

Francisco Madero's position is improved by the collapse of the so-called Magonista or Socialist faction in lower California and their approaching disbandment in Chihuahua. Not very powerful by reason of their own numbers, it is not at all impossible that the enemies of Madero elsewhere might have found a way of encouraging the Magonista bands to keep the field in order to embarrass the successful leader of the revolution. We need not question the motives of the handful of men who set out to establish a Socialist republic in Mexico, in order to show that mischief would have been the probable result of their labors. The followers of Magon may be quite right in asserting that the Maderist régime is bound to fall short of a really democratic republic. But it is equally plain that for complete democracy, as we understand it, Mexico is not as yet ripe. Had Diaz read his duty correctly he would long

ago have laid the foundations for democracy against the time when he should no longer be on the scene. He preferred a policy of "after me the deluge." It is now left to his successor to take up the necessary work of educating the great body of the Mexican people to the proper use of liberty.

Mr. Fielding, the Canadian Minister of Finance, has sent to the English press a sharp letter of protest against "dragging our Canadian affairs into the field of British party politics." He refers particularly to the attacks which have been made in England upon the reciprocity agreement between Canada and the United States. To assert, as Mr. Fielding does, that this is a Canadian "affair," is only to assert the undisputed fiscal freedom which the Dominion has enjoyed for more than fifty years. Speaking directly of those English Conservatives who have represented Canadian reciprocity with America as a blow at "Imperial unity," Mr. Fielding says: "May I venture to suggest that the British statesman who is careful to refrain from such interference, and who leaves citizens of the Dominions to manage their own affairs within the limits of their respective Constitutions, is the best friend of the Empire?" To give further point to all this, the Canadian Minister of Finance takes up a recent speech by Lord Selborne. In that it was stated in effect that British imports into Canada are menaced by the reciprocity agreement, and also that "for the first time" one part of the Empire enjoys a trade preference in a foreign country, while the rest of it does not. On both heads Mr. Fielding has no difficulty in showing that Lord Selborne was entirely wrong.

The last few weeks have witnessed an enormous increase in the prestige of the Kaiser's first Minister of State. It was not so very long ago that the fall of Von Bethmann-Hollweg was regarded as imminent. He had been two years in office and had succeeded neither in framing a definite political programme nor in putting through any important piece of legislation. In the Prussian Diet he had played but a sorry rôle in the matter of the reform of the antiquated franchise. To-day the Chancellor has two highly important legislative measures to his credit. The Reichstag, with the

Socialists alone dissenting, has adopted the Government's recodification of the workingmen's insurance laws, a work of monumental scope and vital importance. But perhaps a more dramatic victory was the enactment of a Constitution for Alsace-Lorraine on an approximately democratic basis. The Conservatives bitterly opposed the bestowal of the suffrage on the inhabitants of the conquered provinces, and for this occasion the Chancellor broke with his Junker allies. With the help of Liberal and Radical votes, the Constitution project was put through, the only concession to the Conservatives being the coupling of plural voting with universal suffrage. Publicly thanked by the Kaiser for his services, Von Bethmann-Hollweg is regarded as firmly installed in office. He is now urged to offer battle to the Junkers once again on the question of electoral reform in Prussia.

There is little doubt now that what France has dispatched to Morocco is not a flying expedition, but an army of occupation. There are at present in Morocco, or soon will be, 25,000 French troops. The British forces in Egypt number a little under 20,000. The withdrawal of this imposing array is not to be expected in the immediate future. It is still maintained by French statesmen and the partisans of France abroad that such action does not violate the Act of Algeciras, which guaranteed the integrity of the Moroccan Empire and the authority of the Sultan. On the contrary, it is impossible at present to speak of the integrity of a country that is rent by continuous civil warfare and anarchy and whose ruler cannot make his authority felt outside the walls of Fez, if indeed he is safe within his own palace. So competent an observer as Mr. E. J. Dillon declares that Germany has no ground to stand on in any attempt she may make to antagonize French action in Morocco. In the first place, by her agreement with France concluded in 1909, Germany virtually gave the French government a free hand in Morocco. In the second place, since Germany has persistently disclaimed any political ambitions in Morocco and has confined herself to pleading for the open door, it cannot be argued that a pacified country would in any way be inimical to German commercial interests.

CHAMP CLARK AS CHANTECLER.

The genial gentleman from Missouri who was leader of the minority in the Sixty-first Congress, and is Speaker of the House in the Sixty-second, performed a brilliant exploit in the domain of prophecy during the closing days of the former body, and in his speech last week at Harrisburg he accomplished a similar feat in the field of contemporary history. In his famous welcome of Canadian annexation as the predestined result of reciprocity, the scream of the American eagle was no more lusty than was the bray of the Democratic donkey in the pean of triumph with which he awoke the echoes at Harrisburg. Hear him tell of what happened in Washington in the Sixty-first Congress:

When I remember what the House Democrats were at the beginning of the Sixty-first Congress—a wrangling, jangling, peevish, feeble, and despised minority—and how, by a conciliatory policy, we got together, wrenched victory after victory from our opponents, made of ourselves the most superb fighting minority ever seen in Washington, and established a record on which we swept the country in 1910, not only electing a Democratic House, but capturing a half-dozen Senatorial seats from the Republicans and a half-dozen Governors in Northern States, I assert without fear of successful contradiction that no parliamentary minority in history ever made a more splendid record.

That the Democratic party did win a great victory at the polls last year, that it is now in a position of strength before the country to which it had long been a stranger, and that its representatives at Washington are showing a degree both of character and of sagacity which has delighted the friends of the party and astonished its enemies—all this is perfectly true. But it has required the sunny vision of Mr. Clark to see the history of that achievement in the light in which he presents it. The Democratic victory of 1910 was the theme of many pens, both during the campaign in which it was looked upon as almost a foregone conclusion, and after; but we seem to have no recollection that anybody regarded as a chief factor in producing it the magnificent record of the Democratic minority in the House. The mere plodders who write for newspapers and magazines mechanically set down a number of quite unheroic elements as the causes of Republican defeat and Democratic success. Most people ascribed it, in the main, to three things—the split in the Republican par-

ty caused by the "insurgent" movement and by Rooseveltism, general resentment at the Payne-Aldrich tariff, and the pinch of high prices. And all the while, the real explanation was waiting to be given—"the most superb fighting minority ever seen in Washington," a history of splendid achievement matched by "no parliamentary minority in history." Coming from the man who was the leader of that minority, there might be some objection made to this announcement, either as to its modesty or its reliability; but Mr. Clark disarms all criticism of this nature. "Every Democrat who served in the House of the Sixty-first Congress," he says, "is entitled to his full share of the honor. In the words of Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, touching the battle off Santiago, 'There is glory enough for all.'"

In sober truth, there is "glory enough for all" in the fact that the Democrats have known how to use with credit the opportunity that has fallen into their hands; there is no need of claiming any superhuman merit in the bringing about of the opportunity. And, indeed, so far from such extraordinary qualities having been shown by the minority as turned a desperate situation into a promising one by sheer strength and wisdom and courage, almost the opposite was the case. When the Payne-Aldrich bill was under consideration in the extra session of the Sixty-first Congress, the Democrats made a pitiful showing until the Republican "insurgents" put backbone into the situation. It was only after this extraordinary opportunity had thus been fully developed, and only after further weakness and disorganization had been injected into the Republican situation by the Ballinger trouble, that the Democrats rose to the occasion. We do not say that the minority did not afterward acquit itself well; but its "superb" record had little more causal relation to the development of the new political situation than did the crowing of Chantecler to the rising of the sun.

The matter is of no particular importance, perhaps, except as another exhibition of quality on the part of a man whom, good enough within his limitations, it is irritating to think of as seriously an aspirant for the Presidency of the United States. The question that is of real interest in regard to the Democratic party relates not to the little episode of the conduct of the House

minority a year or two ago, but to the measure it is giving of itself in its day of prosperity and promise. The conduct of the party in the present House of Representatives has thus far surpassed the most sanguine expectations. Difficulties of very serious character have been overcome, one after another; and the party has presented a united front not by sacrificing all aggressiveness in its programme for the sake of harmony, but by proving able to move harmoniously in the carrying out of a vigorous policy. In several States, too, of the greatest importance from the standpoint of national politics, the record of Democratic Governors or Legislatures has been such as greatly to strengthen the claim of the party to respect and confidence.

The single weak spot in the situation is New York—but that is an exception whose significance is enormous and which may easily prove fatal. When the time comes for voting for the next President, there are certainly thousands of voters in this State, with strong leanings to the Democratic side, whose first thought will be not of Taft, or of Wilson, or of Harmon, but of Tammany. The men that voted for Dix last November because they were tired of the Republican tariff policy, or disliked Roosevelt, or were disgusted with the Republican "Old Guard," knew they were taking a risk; but to take a risk is one thing, and to see their worst fears fulfilled is another. With every day furnishing new evidence of the Legislature's shameful subservience, and of the Governor's pitiful weakness under the shadow of Murphy, it is not in human nature for the ordinary man to swallow his indignation and vote the national ticket of a party the election of whose State ticket has yielded such fruit. The one cloud in the Democratic sky is this Tammanyized State of New York; but from that cloud may come the deluge that will wash away the whole harvest.

DANGERS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING.

Carlyle's contempt for political oratory is well known. He maintained that a public speaker could not tell the truth as it lay in his own mind, since the desire to please his audience would be sure to lead him into lying before he knew it. Even Gladstone admitted

that the listeners gave in mist to the speaker what they got back in shower. But he did not, on that account, join Carlyle in bidding men eschew public speaking as they would any other device of Satan! Carlyle himself hazarded his soul in his address to the students of Edinburgh, and did not come off so badly. But wholly apart from these inner perils of the orator—the testing of his own veracity—an external one has grown in our day to proportions that are serious. What we mean is the reporting of speeches in the press. Sometimes, of course, this comes to outright misreporting; but the danger to which we refer lies rather in the fragmentary report.

Gov. Wilson has just been partially a victim of this. A section was torn out of the speech that he made at Harrisburg on Thursday of last week; and this, by itself, was capable of being taken as a highly sensational utterance. Of course, if it could be so taken it has been so taken. A press on the watch for sensations could never let so good an opportunity escape. The Governor said: "The great monopoly in this country today is the money monopoly." "All our activities are in the hands of a few men." Such round affirmations, read by themselves, might easily be thought a kind of revived Bryanism—extravagant, unguarded, and disturbing. But the moment one turns to the fuller report of Gov. Wilson's speech, one sees what a great mistake such an inference would be. The Governor was dealing with the series of large issues which are going to show the stuff that is in American statesmen during the next few years, and among them he mentioned the crying need of banking reform. Yet no sooner do you attack that problem than you discover that "the control of credit is dangerously concentrated in this country." That is a plain fact which the coolest-headed economists and most unemotional students of finance have long been pointing out. It has been referred to over and over in the discussions of the Aldrich plans for currency reform. So here was no private bombshell of Gov. Wilson's. And the sentences of his which have been so widely quoted and commented upon fall into their orderly place in the speech as really delivered. Moreover, they were almost immediately followed by a passage in which the Governor sought to

forestall misunderstanding and to prevent the notion getting abroad that he was a dangerous radical going about with a torch in his hand. We cite a few of his words of warning which were entirely omitted from the condensed press reports:

There are well-known conditions which surround so great a task. In the first place, it cannot be executed if attempted with inconsiderate haste.

We must remember that the abuses which we seek to remedy have come into existence as incidents of the great structure of industry we have built up. This structure is the work of our own hands; our own lives are involved in it. Reckless attacks upon it, destructive assaults against it would jeopard our own lives and disturb, it might be fatally, the very progress we seek to attain.

It would be particularly fatal to any programme to admit into our minds, as we pursue it, any spirit of revenge, any purpose to wreak our displeasure upon the person and the institutions who now represent the abuses we deprecate and seek to destroy. I do not say these things because I think there is danger of vengeful action or revolutionary haste, but merely because we ought always to recognize that it is of the very essence of constructive statesmanship that we should think and act temperately, wisely, justly, in the spirit of those who reconstruct and amend, not in the spirit of those who destroy and seek to build from the foundations again.

It seems to us clear that any sensible man taking Gov. Wilson's speech entire, and sitting down to read it in cold blood, would never dream of regarding it as the work of an incendiary. But it did not come to the majority of readers entire, nor did they sit down to it in cold blood. They got but a portion of his actual language; they got nothing of his personal attitude and bearing. And so it was natural enough for some to cry out, "Why, Wilson is only another political sensationalist." Just this is the great peril which we have said besets public speakers in our day. Anything startling which they may say is certain to be reported in the newspapers; their qualifying words are almost equally certain to be left out.

But press reports of speeches have to take their chance with other matter, and often must be cut down. This means that only fragments are given, and it is only human nature that those fragments should be retained which contain the most piquant or even sensational utterances. We are not defending this, we are only explaining; and what we desire to add is that public men are bound to bear the process in mind. We

would not wholly acquit Gov. Wilson from indiscretion in using such phrases as he did. It should have been present to his mind that they would be sure to be seized upon and their meaning distorted. A public orator whose words are to be telegraphed over the country needs to walk warily. It is for him to avoid those things which, while they will not make a bad impression upon his immediate hearers, will pretty surely cause disquiet to readers at a distance. It might be a good rule for any orator in public life who felt himself on the verge of saying something to make his audience "sit up," to think at once of the larger audience not present, and to bridle his tongue, or else to enter a prompt disclaimer of perverse misinterpretations of his language, and tell the reporters to be sure to get that, too. It is better, after all, to be safe than to be sensational. With such an awful example as American speakers had for seven years of misplacing emphasis and saying the right thing in the wrong way and inflaming and exasperating and raising false hopes which at last recoiled upon the head of him who begot them, it ought not to be so hard for them to avoid some of the more obvious pitfalls that lie by the path of one who has often to address his fellow-countrymen.

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

It is fitting that the greatest tract of the anti-slavery struggle, the book which sober historians have pronounced the most influential novel ever written, should have come from the pen of a woman. What more natural than the inspiring of a woman to tell of the sins of bondage, which bore most heavily upon the slave women, if only in denying them the right to chastity, to marriage, and to their children? Certain it is that Mrs. Stowe steeped herself in these fearful wrongs until her moral indignation, touched as of genius, wrought out a work that not only made her immortal, but, what was of far more importance to her, made converts by the hundred thousand to the cause for which she and all her chivalrous family were ready to perish if need be.

Criticised the book has been. In the South even to-day, among the illiberal and the prejudiced, it is quite customary to denounce Mrs. Stowe as the worst

of vilifiers and slanderers. The college professor who should praise "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and declare it a reasonably fair characterization of slavery could not to-day hold his position south of Mason and Dixon's line. Sherman alone is so black a beast. To most of these the historic facts upon which Mrs. Stowe built her defence of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" are unknown, as are those "Testimonies of a Thousand Witnesses" compiled from Southern sources that to-day give slavery so fearful an aspect—as different from the descriptions of the latter-day novelists of the South as the night from the day. That she had made the worst overseer in the book a Northern man, that she had made the good and humane Southern characters the most prominent, went for naught. The unpardonable offence was that there was criticism of the sacred institution. The vehemence of the replies, of course, revealed the force of the blow, and the book's immortality is in itself the clearest proof that it was based upon truth; for no book of slander and lies, no unjust condemnation of a great social system affecting millions upon millions, can survive merely by great art. Forty-seven years after its publication, this book, which was said to be a wicked libel, led in popularity all the English fiction in the New York Public Library.

Great art there was not in Mrs. Stowe's book. "The style," says James Ford Rhodes, "is commonplace, the language is often trite and inelegant, sometimes degenerating into slang; and the humor is strained." Yet he records that Macaulay characterized it as the "most valuable addition that America has made to English literature"; and Lowell described it as genius. It was a rare timing of a book with the precise psychological moment when the conscience and heart of the North were ready to be touched and stirred on the slavery question as they were by no other event prior to the firing on Sumter, save by the hanging of John Brown. Mrs. Stowe refuted once for all the Southern defence of slavery on the ground that the negro was only an animal, as predestined to bondage as the ass, the ox, or the horse, because she made the whole world weep over the sufferings of both white and black, and made it plain to all that when it comes to grief and sorrow there is no color

line in the pain and anguish the human heart can endure. The millions who have wept over the deaths of Uncle Tom and Eva, as portrayed by every kind of dramatic company, and thrilled at the escape of Eliza, have doubtless not been severe critics nor proof against hawkish sentiment. But their emotion is explicable on no other ground than that at bottom Mrs. Stowe touched with rare dramatic power the underlying human emotions not only of her generation but of many another, and thus proved anew that an appeal in behalf of human rights, made with justice and passion and self-obliterating earnestness, can never fail to bear fruit.

That Mrs. Stowe never produced any other book comparable in its success to "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has often been held up against her. Instead, it is, perhaps, but proof of the way in which she spent herself in this work, giving the best that was in her in order that others might see slavery as she beheld it. No complete history of America can be written that does not take measure of her moulding of her time and credit her with a glorious share in purging the country of a national shame.

RECENT AVIATION.

Although the experimental aviation flights in Europe have undoubtedly fallen short of the expectations of their promoters, some results worthy of serious attention have already been reached. Among them are: (1) the unexpected staying power shown by individual machines; (2) the persistent bad behavior of the monoplane in its most searching try-outs; (3) the necessity of neutralizing the dangers of the aerial surf; and (4) the effort of the Germans to apply to heavier-than-air machines the same scientific rules for aerial navigation that they have put in practice with buoyant aircraft.

Pierre Vedrine in his trip to Madrid, and Gilbert, who went more than three-fourths of the distance, both used the same single-surface machine they started out with. Conneau-Beaumont did the same thing in his later trip to Rome. These records were made in battling with the elements under all sorts of conditions over diversified stretches of open country, and exceed by double and treble the endurance flight of Legagneaux at Pau last December,

when he monotonously reeled off three hundred and twenty miles in a marked circuit with familiar air and selected weather to help him. Although Legagneaux's distance was made without stoppage, the speed shown was only fifty-three miles an hour, whereas Vedrine in the first division of his trip thrummed along at the rate of seventy-five. This performance brings home the fact that the flying machine, since it was introduced to public notice by the Wright brothers less than four years ago, has outrun the early automobile by giant strides in its advance toward trustworthiness and extended radius of travel. But it is asserted by many experts, who accept as their guides the Wright brothers, Von Parseval, Euler, Farman, and Sommers, that the monoplane made this remarkable showing in spite of its crankiness and other admitted defects.

It is now a demonstrated fact that, with equal strength of construction and spread of wing surface, the biplane apparatus has only half the weight of the single-surface type as at present constructed. Not only were the machines used in the Paris-Madrid and Paris-Rome tours encumbered with this superfluous weight, but they were fitted with heavy motors of more than 100 horsepower that consumed, say, an equal number of pounds of gasoline and lubricating oil. The critics add to this handicap faulty adjustment of the centre of gravity, which made itself manifest in the capricious lurching and frequent capsizing. Out of the fourteen who began the Paris-Rome-Turin circuit but four got to the second stage, and only one of them, Conneau-Beaumont, arrived in the machine he started with. Garros broke up two, and Vidart and Frey one apiece.

Such untoward results were disappointing to the advocates of the monoplane. The brave beginning in a thirty-mile wind indicated a marked improvement in constructional efficiency due to increased effectiveness of the steering and stabilizing rudders—the controls that exhibited such weakness at the Belmont race-track last October. Then the bangars of the monoplanes were locked up and deserted, while their operators and attendants watched the three American biplane pilots, Brookins, Hoxsey, and Johnstone, placidly riding on the wings of a furious hurricane, the two

latter at an altitude of a mile and a half riding backwards, to be sure, but all of them showing a perfect mastery of their apparatus. True, the last series of disabling accidents to the monoplane came about almost entirely from the forced landings to replenish the gasoline and lubricating tanks, landings made in the moving strata of the atmosphere closest to the earth's surface, where there are swishing vortices able at times to wrench any machine apart.

Just how and when a device will appear that shall give warning of these sudden perils of the air, the most knowing of the experts do not predict. In the large omnibus passenger-carrying machines, soon to be introduced into public use by the leading biplane makers of Europe, and in the Wright brothers' present single-passenger service machines, provision is made for two operators and duplicate levers, one pilot handling the elevating plane and the other the steering rudders. Greater weight in construction and the consequent increased momentum also make for safety.

Though it may not so strongly appeal to popular fancy as long-distance speed contests, the German passenger-carrying test of eleven hundred and fifty miles, that took the northern, or "wind-strong," region of that country, none of the carefully designed daily flights being greatly in excess of a hundred miles, shows the way for utilitarian experiments. It embraces the amount and kind of work that the methodical Teutons believe the automobile of the skies will be called upon to do when first ushered into use as an economical conveyance. Both monoplanes and biplanes entered for the comprehensive tour that may last until July 7, with prizes to the amount of \$106,000 for the winners. The itinerary includes Hamburg, Kiel, Hanover, Münster, and Cologne; but is especially noteworthy because it has a definite and coherent technical aim, viz., a systematic attempt to apply to aeroplane flight the aerial tactics in vogue with the pilots of the German military and civilian dirigibles and of their free balloons.

As a foundation, Germany, by means of the observations and soundings of Hergesell, Assmann, Berson, Elias, Marcusl, and other experienced meteorologists, has charted the winds to a height of two miles or thereabouts. When one

of the hundred balloon pilots starts, for example, on a point to point race, he "gets his air" from the most convenient aerological station, and, making the wind his motive power and his rudder, travels by compass and barograph perhaps two hundred miles, landing, as Paul Meckel and his equally skilled associates have done more than once, within a thousand feet of the predetermined goal. Foreknowledge of atmospheric conditions has been utilized by Reichert, Leitsch, and Willenstein in the present tour.

Steering by compass is another everyday affair with German aviators, and they have so far mostly flown a direct course from one recording station to another. The German management of the three mountain crossings to be essayed, based, as it will be, upon aerological forecasts, will exhibit another interesting phase of aviation progress. Whatever the success of the present German passenger-carrying contest, it seems not unreasonable to say that it has set a pace and fixed a standard that other nations must follow. It is cross-country flying of the most useful character, and the one-man haphazard flights will doubtless ere long be left to the same obscurity as the so-called aviation "meets" and field-exhibitions of last year.

RAKING A WRITER'S PAST.

Sixty-one years after the death of Balzac the discovery of a hitherto unpublished novel by the French master is announced. Forty-eight years after the death of Thackeray we are presented with a little treasure trove from the years before "Vanity Fair." Within the last few years there have been additions made to the published writings of men as far back as Sterne, Hazlitt, and Lamb, not to speak of the total discovery of a new author in the person of the seventeenth-century poet Traherne. We have had Renan's journal of his youth and Emerson's. Letters of Carlyle and Ruskin are constantly entering the field. Among the freshest wares on the market are verses by Poe, letters by Stevenson, and an autobiography of Richard Wagner. To speak of all these as discoveries in the sense of the unearthing of absolutely unsuspected material, would be incorrect. In most instances the existence of the manuscript has been

known to one person or a small number of people, and its publication has been dictated by any reason from whim to expediency. In the case of Balzac, we have a novel presented, after the magnificent fashion of the man, to the Duchesse de Dino who had inspired it. A descendant of the lady thus honored recently gave it to a man of letters, who lost no time in giving it to the world. In the Duchess's family the existence of this novel must surely have been known, and it is difficult to imagine that it escaped the knowledge of that wonderful searcher after things Balzacian, the late Baron Spoelberch de Lovenjoul. The Wagner autobiography had, of course, been read by several people.

The value of such literary finds is a subject upon which persons who are best qualified to judge have by this time arrived at a pretty definite opinion. And this opinion holds that only too frequently neither the dead author nor the living public is the gainer. When the find in question is biographical in nature this objection will not, of course, apply. Anything that adds to our store of facts in the life of a great man has its importance; and if protest is forthcoming it must be on some such ground as was taken by many people in regard to the publication of the Browning letters. It is a question whether our increased knowledge of the dead is sufficient compensation for the injured feelings of the living; and only that. We cannot take seriously the objection that the personality of the dead Brownings may have suffered in the eyes of those who adore their works. If the prestige of these works remained unimpaired, we should be content. But it is precisely such injury that is wrought by raking up the discarded apprentice efforts of a man's youth and loading the balance against his mature fame. The gain to the professional teacher of rhetoric in a bit of fresh material illustrating the development of Stevenson's craftsmanship may easily be counterbalanced by the shock to tens of thousands of readers in the discovery that the young Stevenson sometimes wrote rather badly. A safe guiding principle for the editor of a new manuscript by a dead author would be to ask himself whether the new work is worthy of its author as the world has learned to appraise him.

Who would not give much for a new volume by Thackeray or Balzac? Every one of us would. But this new volume must indeed be Thackeray or Balzac. Sentiment will take the mediocre pages of a master and endow them with qualities above their true worth. If a reader is so happily constituted, there is no more to be said about the matter. But where the critical faculty cannot be kept from coming into play, the great discovery might well have been left unprinted if it lacks intrinsic merits. And, after all, why should we so thirst for a new page of Thackeray, when there is so much to be had in the pages we know? The individual aroma which comes from the pages of a master may as easily be caught by reading "Pendenis" twice or "Père Goriot" twice as by reading two different stories from the same pen. To paraphrase a well-known epigram, whenever we are asked to read the rough first draft of a story by Stevenson written in his early twenties, we will read "Kidnapped" and "Prince Otto." Certain it is that the author himself is entitled to say what he wishes of his work to be preserved and what he wants forgotten. His judgment may often be wrong. But the editor must be very sure that it was indeed wrong, before he assumes the liberty of giving to the public what the artist himself thought unworthy of himself or his pains.

In the end this practical consideration remains the weightiest. It is ill travelling the path of fame with a heavy baggage; why increase the load which every great writer is compelled to carry? The spirit of criticism spares no one. Literature has its fashion cycles and the man who is apotheosized in one generation is often compelled to undergo the judgment of the next. Nowadays we do not hesitate to point out faults in Balzac, Thackeray, or Dickens. In one is found a great tedium; in the second an over-intrusion of the author's personality; in the third a serious distortion of character values. That the next decade may completely reverse us does not matter. To-day we do find fault with the masters, even knowing them as we do at their best. Hence it is no kindness to them to put into print work that is obviously not of their best.

MISCELLANEOUS GERMAN BOOKS.

Great as is the number of volumes containing letters exchanged at Weimar in Goethe's days, "Johann Heinrich Mercks Briefe an Anna Amalia und Karl August," in the handsome edition of the Insel-Verlag of Leipzig, is sure of a hearty welcome. Although in the service of the court of Darmstadt as accountant, Merck was a man of remarkably thorough knowledge on a variety of subjects, from art to archaeology, from literature to agriculture. Karl August employed him as a buyer of etchings, drawings, and paintings, and sought his advice on economic and agrarian problems. This business intercourse gradually brought the two into something like purely human relations. But whether his temperament or his versatility was a drawback to his career, the gifted man never made a success of anything he himself undertook. He was a hypochondriac, discontented with everybody, and at times isolated himself completely from human society. As if to escape from his fellow-beings and himself, he became absorbed in the study of prehistoric nature, and finally committed suicide.

The letters fairly mirror forth his eccentric character and the spirit of his time. The spice of conversation, as of correspondence, was that particular kind of gossip which the French euphoniously call *médiance*. With amazing freedom Merck indulges in this smart but malicious small talk. He tells the princess that the ladies at the court of Darmstadt do not like to converse with anybody except gentlemen of sixteen ancestors, unless it be the *accouch-eur*, the coachman, or the valet. He reports to the prince the most equivocal occurrences in his environment. With evident relish he circulates the scandals coming to his ears and suppresses no caustic comment even if they concern personages of exalted position. On the other hand, he gives not a few evidences of his great-heartedness and broadmindedness. Thus he defends Georg Forster, the traveller and writer, against damaging rumors, and warmly pleads the cause of the Mennonites. His indefatigable zeal in seeking art treasures for the princely collector and his repeated complaints about his meagre income have a touch of the mercenary. But these glimpses of his personal life shed such a peculiar light upon the relations of princely patrons and literary protégés in those days of Weimar's glory that they have a place in any picture of the period. Merck's impressions of his contemporaries and reminiscences of days spent at Weimar also contain historical material. Karl August especially stands forth in the light of these letters as nobler and more profoundly intellectual than biography has credited him with being. The numerous al-

lusions to and discussions of serious scientific topics prove him to have been really a scholar of a remarkably wide scope of interests and occupations. But the prime charm of the letters is that which emanates from the personality of their writer. He was, indeed, as Goethe said at the news of his death, one whose like would not be born again.

Among the "Bücher der Rose," which bear the imprint of Wilhelm Lange-wiesche-Brandt in München-Ebenhausen and Leipzig, one of the recent additions is entitled "Ein Kampf ums Licht," and contains letters, memoranda, and poems by Lenau (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.). The editor has cleverly arranged the selections in chronological order, so as to form a consecutive though indirect record of Lenau's development. He calls the poet's life a *Donquixoterie* of sorrow, or the tragedy of a will centred in introspection and never released for free action. Yet the struggle of Lenau against what seems to have been an inevitable fate was bravely waged, and the man deserves the full measure of sympathy. The letters, of which many had hitherto been unknown, give interesting glimpses into the workings of his mind. He consoles a friend who complains of her childlessness, by saying that individuals should not regard themselves as mere channels of species, but live as independent entities. His love-letters, too, shed a new light upon his relations with the two women with whom he imagined himself in love successively or simultaneously. Of curious interest to American readers are the pages referring to his American journey in 1832-33. After a week's stay in Baltimore he writes to his brother-in-law that America has no nightingales and no wine, and that a Niagara voice is needed to preach to "these rascals that there are other gods besides those coined at the mint." His description of a meal in the cheap boarding-house where he had taken lodgings is amusing, because it seems to have given the cue to many a picture of American manners drawn by his compatriots unto this very day.

An anthology of letters, "Frauen-briefe aller Zeiten" (imported by Lemcke & Buechner), has been compiled by Bernhard Ihringer, and in about four hundred pages gives a fair picture of two thousand years of woman's history. The letters are selected from the correspondence of women of all ranks and of all countries of Europe, and cover the ground with no little discretion and with commendable thoroughness. The first letter in the book is one by the sister and the daughter of Charlemagne addressed to their teacher Alcuin, and strikes the keynote of fervent piety which prevailed in the first five hundred years. There are in this group letters by Héroïse and Catherine of

Siena and a number of others, giving glimpses of the life of women in convent and castle. Curious for its worldly tone is that addressed by Alessandra Strozzi to her son Filippo, in which she announces the betrothal of her daughter and says that she will give her one thousand lire. "For whoever takes a wife also wants money. It was highest time for me to decide in this matter, for she was already sixteen and could not wait to be married any longer." There are letters passed between Queen Elizabeth and Mary Stuart, Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII, letters by Lucrezia Borgia, by the wife of Luther, by Christine of Sweden, and many others of varied historical importance. A farewell note of the Marquise de Brinvilliers was written to her husband on the eve of her execution for her part in the "affaire des poisons." Some of these epistles revive the memory of famous loves. A pathetic document is the dedicatory letter to Count Collalto, which introduced the poems of Gaspara Stampa. Nor can one read without emotion the letter of la Vallière to the Duchess of Montausier referring to her relations with the French King. Two letters by Ninon de l'Enclos to the Marquis de Sévigné are really essays on love, a subject on which the writer was surely an authority. The book fitly closes with a letter to Hartleben by his wife Selma, the little mother of the incorrigible big boy.

The young generation of German writers are subjected to a steady analysis, mostly of a friendly character. To the books on Gerhart Hauptmann previously recorded may be added a volume of more than four hundred pages: "Gerhart Hauptmann: Der Entwicklungsgang seiner Dichtung," by Dr. Kurt Sternberg (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.). The author divides his book into ten chapters. Upon the details of Hauptmann's life he dwells only long enough to prove him a genuine product of his time, obeying the various impulses, ethical and æsthetic, that swayed the generation into which the poet was born. He affirms what the works of Hauptmann, since the appearance of "The Sunken Bell," suggest—that the soul of the poet is the scene of a tragic conflict between the inborn idealism of his nature and the naturalism of his time, as also between the egotism of the Superman and the altruism of the Nazarene. While the influence of Ibsen and Nietzsche is predominant in the first period of his creative work, that of Tolstoy seems to prevail in his later development. In the analysis of Hauptmann's style, Dr. Sternberg notes the enthusiasm with which the poet first embraced the method of Holz and Schlaf, and his subsequent spasmodic reactions against it. He frankly admits Hauptmann's gradual decadence, but in his brief allusion to the

novel recently published, "Emanuel Quint," suggests that it may prove to be a turning-point in the author's career. This hope of his sympathetic analyst Hauptmann has, in the meantime, destroyed by the publication of his play "Ratten," which marks a relapse into a naturalism more repulsive than that of his earlier period. Though the book contains little that is new in the way of interpretation, it is very readable.

Heinrich Spiero's "Deutsche Geister" (Leipzig: Insel-Verlag) is a volume of studies and essays dedicated to Wilhelm Raabe, and contains a gallery of contemporary German portraits, showing a remarkably catholic range of interests and sympathies. The book begins with the Austrian poet Ferdinand von Saar, and includes appreciations of such of his fellow-singers as Emil Prinz von Schönau-Carolath, Jakob Julius David, Gustav Falke, Agnes Miegel, and Lulu von Strauss und Torney. It recalls to the reader the well-poised and refined personality of Wilhelm von Polenz; it groups in succession the three dramatists of the period, Wildenbruch, Sudermann, and Hauptmann. The singular story of Ilse Frapan's life and work forms an interesting chapter. A number of other men and women that have earned for themselves a distinct place in the history of Germany's intellectual development are characterized with much insight. The latter part of the book is composed of essays on various literary subjects. In a study of the new historical novel Spiero comes to the conclusion that the works of Wilhelm Raabe will in time be recognized as masterpieces of "unconsciously historical" fiction. In the essay on poetry and politics, the author regrets the aloofness of the German poet from current politics and points to the poets of France as examples of what poetical genius can accomplish by being in close touch with practical life.

An unusually attractive book of travel is Bernhard Kellermann's "Ein Spaziergang in Japan" (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.). It contains fascinating personal impressions of the country and its people by the novelist whose stories have recently begun to attract much attention. From a writer of his poetic temperament, one could not expect a systematic record of a journey planned and carried out along beaten tracks. He himself sets an example, showing how to travel in a foreign country without anxiously following in the footsteps of predecessors or hesitating to obey momentary impulses. In ten-houses, theatres, and temples, Kellermann studied the life of the people, and by direct contact with them acquired in a comparatively brief time a remarkable knowledge of their customs and especially of their drama. The references to performances are numerous, and the special chapter on the drama is one of

the most valuable in the book. That there is not a commonplace passage in it is its most commendable feature, for travelling in remote corners of the world and making pretentious volumes out of Baedeker material has become itself a commonplace occupation, and Japan has been particularly unfortunate in its exploitation by tourists and scribes.

A. VON ENDE.

NEWS FOR BIBLIOPHILES.

It has been definitely announced that the sale of the first portion of the Huth Library will begin early in November. The Huth collection of autographs was sold by Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, on June 12 and 13. A very fine and interesting letter, written by Shelley to Joseph Severn, dated Pisa, November 29, 1821, and beginning, "I send you the Elegy on Keats," brought £770. This was, no doubt, a copy of the first edition of "Adonais," printed at Pisa, "with the types of Didot," during the latter part of June and the first of July. Henry Fielding's contract with Andrew Miller for the publication of "Tom Jones," and his autograph receipt for the price, £600, brought £1,015. An autograph letter of Defoe, signed with initials "D. F.," dated October 11, 1704, brought £295. Burns's manuscript of "The Jolly Beggars," three pages folio, brought £491. The following are a few other prices: Anne Boleyn, autograph signature on a letter, £315; Anne of Cleves, autograph signature on a vellum document, £101; John Calvin, autograph document, signed, £62; Bartholomew de las Casas, fine A. L. S. about the persecution of the Indians by the Spaniards, £200; Sir Francis Drake, autograph signature on an interesting letter, £100; John Dryden, fine A. L. S., in which he says, "I am still drudging on, always a Poet, and never a good one," £130; Queen Elizabeth, long A. L. S., £365; Katherine of Aragon, fine unpublished A. L. S., in Spanish, £800; Sir Walter Raleigh, A. L. S., written from the Tower, and begging that "my wife might agayne be made a prisoner wth me, as she hath bene for six yeeres last past," £520.

Correspondence

NEWSPAPER FILES AT ALBANY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Many persons familiar with the New York State Library and its great wealth of American historical material are unaware of the marvellous collection of early American newspapers which it contained, and which is now totally destroyed. There were thousands of volumes of New York State newspapers from Colonial days to date. These for the most part were catalogued and accessible; but in searching last year for early Illinois newspapers I found more than 175 bound volumes of miscellaneous newspapers covering the period from 1819 to 1860, and including titles from every part of the United States—the whole collection uncatalogued, virtually

unknown and inaccessible to historians and librarians.

To illustrate how rich this collection was, I need only say that I listed no fewer than 246 separate titles of Illinois newspapers, nearly all of them published prior to 1850, and many of them apparently unique copies, as I have found them in no other library. Several I had never elsewhere even found mentioned as having been in existence, and several others afforded the only known source of some points in early Illinois journalism. Other States and Canada were as fully represented as Illinois. Most of the 246 items were of single copies, but there were a few runs of great value, like that of the *Kaskaskia Republican Advocate*, 1823-1824, and its continuation, *Kaskaskia Republican*, 1824-1825. Even the single numbers were valuable far beyond seeming, because they were usually first issues, or issues of some special or peculiar significance, illustrating changes in policy, name, or ownership, or containing particularly significant items of news.

The collection was the work of Joel Munsell, an editor and printer of Albany, who in 1828 made one of the earliest attempts to procure a file of American newspapers. He was, as S. N. D. North wrote (*Census Report*, 1884), "a gentleman who did as much as any man who ever lived in this country to advance and promote the art of typography and to preserve its annals. The papers in Mr. Munsell's . . . collection satisfactorily illustrated the character and condition of the American press at the time. It was bound in 100 volumes, which are now deposited in the New York library." The 100 volumes included papers much later than 1828, and had been increased to nearly 200 volumes long before Mr. North's sentences were written.

North credits Munsell with having been the first to make such a file. But Isaiah Thomas of Worcester, Mass., made a comprehensive collection in gathering material for his "History of Printing," published in 1810. This well-known collection, given to the American Antiquarian Society in 1813, is especially rich in first issues. A still earlier collection is in the Harvard library. It was made by Christoph Daniel Ebeling, professor of history in Hamburg, Germany, and is described in Thwaites's "The Ohio Valley Press before the War of 1812-15." "One of the most important sources which he used in his great work on the 'Erdbeschreibung und Geschichte von Amerika,' published at Hamburg from 1783 to 1816, were the newspapers of the various States. His collection, numbering some 200 volumes, and especially strong in the last decade of the eighteenth century, was, after his death in 1817, purchased with the rest of his library and presented to Harvard University." Munsell's collection, with accretions, was, as to titles, the most comprehensive single collection in existence for the period from 1825 to 1850, although others are more valuable because they contain longer runs. Its destruction is made the more deplorable because it had never been accessible, and of late years had seldom, if ever, been known or used.

FRANK W. SCOTT.

Urbana, Ill., June 12.

KEATS'S "MISSAL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your issue of May 11, Prof. F. N. Scott suggests the possibility of finding a particular missal which inspired Keats's familiar line in "The Eve of St. Agnes." In such a search it is of first importance to understand the line itself, and I judge (I cannot quite be sure) that Professor Scott shares in a somewhat common misunderstanding of the word "clasped," taking it to mean "held fast" or "cherished." This misunderstanding seems to underlie Leigh Hunt's often quoted comment: "Clasped like a missal in a land of Pagans; that is to say, where Christian prayer books must not be seen, and are, therefore, doubly cherished for the danger." But however Hunt understood the word, it is certain that it does not mean "held fast"—the application of the simile quite forbids that. Dr. Garnett pointed this out in a communication to the *Nation*, December 21, 1905:

"Clasped" means simply fastened with a clasp, and the sleeping maiden is compared to a shut missal, precisely as in the last line of the stanza she is compared to a shut rose; with the heightening circumstance that not only is the missal shut, but it is shut in Heatenesse, where it will never be opened.

The conclusive proof, which Dr. Garnett failed to give, may be found in H. B. Forman's edition of Keats, where we learn that the successive forms of the line as originally written were: "Shut like a Missal," "Like a shut Missal," "Like a clasped Missal," "Clasped like a missal." So much for "clasped"; and our desired missal would be, not one jealously guarded by Christians in a heathen land, but one neglected or abandoned there.

But do we understand rightly the phrase "where swart Paynims pray"? Professor Strunk once even proposed to read "prey." And the "Century Readings in English Literature," edited by Professors Cunliffe, Pyre, and Young, has this explanation, which is new to me: "*Missal where swart Paynims pray*: A prayer book bearing upon its margin pictures of converted heathen in the act of prayer." Manifestly, if this can be substantiated, we are searching too far afield. Perhaps the editors of the "Century Readings" will enlighten us. I submit that I am skeptical of their explanation, which leaves the latter half of the line an ornamental appendage, with no apparent function in the simile. Or will some one profess to see a heightening circumstance in the converted heathen—symbols, may it be said, of unholy impulses transformed within the sleeping Madeline's bosom to silent prayers?

"These are very slender disquisitions," wrote Dr. Johnson in a note on Shakespeare, "but such is the task of a commentator."

ALPHONSO G. NEWCOMER.

Stanford University, June 10.

BETRAYED CONFIDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Are college presidents losing a sense of decent propriety about the treatment of letters addressed to them? Twice recently I have been asked to write to the presidents of well-known colleges about the qualifications of candidates for appointment on their respective faculties. In one instance the request came from the presi-

dent himself, in the other from the candidate. In both cases I wrote frankly my best judgment. In each case the president appointed another man, but sent to the unsuccessful candidate all the letters written about him! In one case I was immediately in hot water, because the candidate thought I ought to have recommended him more highly, and I was held by him responsible for his failure to procure the position. But my embarrassment is not the point at issue. If letters, whatever their quality, are to be treated in this way without the consent of the writers, there is evidently an end of all sincerity in such correspondence.

I am perfectly willing to sign my name to this protest, but in that case I must also print the names of the presidents referred to, and this I do not like to do.

UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR.

June 7.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AERONAUTICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am sure many librarians and scientific men will share the surprise and regret with which I note the defective character of the work in Brockett's "Bibliography of Aeronautics," recently issued by the Smithsonian Institution. For example, under "Bryan, G.," "Bryan, G. H.," and "Bryan, George Hartley," are successive lists of titles, all, or most, of which undoubtedly belong to Bryan, George Hartley. A bibliography should certainly make a more satisfactory attribution of articles to authors than this. Similarly there is a page of entries under "Neureuther, K." (p. 625), while on pages 614-16 are twice as many entries under "N., K.," most of which must belong to Neureuther. In fact, it is evident that no attempt was made to bring together articles by the same author signed in different ways. An exception occurs in the case of "Langley, Samuel Pierpont," where all are entered under the full name, though it is doubtful if all were so signed; and the name Langley is made a subject heading for a number of anonymous articles referring to him, although other anonymous articles appear only under the first words of their titles. In the case of other subject headings, there are simply lists of the numbers of the entries to be referred to.

In the list of abbreviations of serials referred to, eight French serials are arranged under "La" and "Lé," and one German serial under "Der," but no English one under "The." Many times the number are just as much entitled to be entered under the article as those which are so favored (?).

Minor inconsistencies and inaccuracies are altogether too numerous for a work bearing the imprint of the Smithsonian Institution.

W. I. FLETCHER.

Amherst, Mass., June 14.

PESTS ON WHITE PINES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In regard to the pest of white lice attacking our white pines, the following experience with a simple, yet effective, remedy may be of interest. For the past two seasons, my baby pines have been attacked by a small gray insect, which fairly swarmed on the new, tender growth,

and sucked the life out of it. Sulfoide, Paris green, whale oil soap, were all successively used upon the pest, but to no avail. They seemed to thrive upon germicides, or, at least, next morning seemed more lively and numerous than ever.

In connection with the pest, I observed that black ants seemed to be extremely active, climbing and descending the same tree. Thinking that possibly the pest was "colonized" by these black ants, I tacked a strip of sticky fly-paper around the trunk of each white pine, rubbed off the lice, and awaited results. The pest has disappeared as if by magic.

Whether this will prove an equally effective remedy for white lice, I do not pretend to say, as I do not know whether the ants work in combination with this new pest. But perhaps the experiment is worth trying.

Of one thing I feel sure, however, and that is that the ant is responsible for a good deal more in the way of supplying pests which attack our crops and trees than he is given credit for. As R. L. S. would say:

Hated as his age increases,
By his nephews and his nieces,

he ought to be exterminated. The comparatively inoffensive house-fly has had his day in magazine literature. We should have a crusade against that far blacker villain, the black ant.

WILLIAM TRUMBULL.

Litchfield, June 16.

Literature

THE FEDERAL CONVENTION.

The Records of the Federal Convention of 1787. Edited by Max Farrand, professor of history in Yale University. In three volumes. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Historians and constitutional lawyers have long desired to see all the records that exist of the formation of the Federal Constitution, gathered into a record which shall be at once correct, critical, and comprehensive. Their wish is now gratified. Professor Farrand, formerly of Leland Stanford University and now of Yale, has given us in these three portly volumes a body of data more complete than any ever brought together before, adding to the material previously printed, but heretofore dispersed in various books, a certain amount of new matter drawn from other sources, some of them never hitherto explored by any competent scholar.

Broadly speaking, the sources for the history of the Convention here collected are the following: (1.) The Journal of the Convention, kept by the secretary, William Jackson, preserved in the State Department at Washington, and first printed in 1819, after being edited by John Quincy Adams, then Secretary of State. It was, said Adams, not so much a journal as a set of minutes from which a regular journal ought to

have been prepared; and Adams thought it his duty to correct these minutes and put them into better shape. In the present edition, they are printed exactly as Jackson left them, though Adams's edition is cited where necessary. The unsatisfactory character of the minutes is illustrated by the fact that the record of Ayes and Noes upon the questions submitted to a vote is not explained by a note of the dates of the votings, and that in about one-tenth of the votings, the issue voted on is not recorded. Mr. Farrand suggests in the present edition the dates of issues which he thinks probable, but he remarks that the state of this journal, or minutes, makes it evidence far from satisfactory. The secretary was not a careful man, but whose influence it was that secured his appointment does not appear.

(2.) The notes of the proceedings of the Convention, taken down by James Madison of Virginia, one of the delegates, and afterwards (as everybody knows), Secretary of State and twice President. These are one of the fullest and most authentic sources we possess. Madison corrected them, apparently with a view to publication, some time after the appearance of the Journal in 1819, and they were published in 1840, after his death. Great as is their value, he slightly reduced it by making a good many changes when he revised what he had written, changes apparently intended to bring his record into conformity with the Journal, though it is probable that in some cases he was right and the Journal wrong.

(3.) Notes taken by several members of the Convention, viz., Robert Yates, Chief Justice of New York; Rufus King and James McHenry of Maryland; William Pierce of Georgia; William Paterson of New Jersey; and Alexander Hamilton, together with a few things from the papers of Charles Pinckney and George Mason.

(4.) Documents drawn from the papers of James Wilson (preserved in Philadelphia), belonging to the drafts of the work done by the Committee of Five, which elaborated the Virginia resolutions, and similar documents belonging to another committee, the Committee of Style.

(5.) Extracts from letters and scattered writings of various members of the Convention which throw light upon the proceedings. These are very various and of very different value, but taken together, they do much to elucidate the history of the Convention. They are here grouped under the title "Supplementary Material," and fill Volume the Third.

To have all these data brought together and their perusal made both easier and more profitable by cross-references and a good index is a gain which can best be appreciated by those who have heretofore tried to study the Con-

vention from materials scattered through dozens of books. Great credit is due to the Yale University Press for conceiving such a plan and for executing it in a form so handsome and convenient; nor is less credit due to Professor Farrand for the care and knowledge he has displayed in the editorial and explanatory part of the work. Some will regret that he did not add fuller and more numerous elucidations of the course the debates followed and the grounds for the attitude of particular men and States. These may no doubt be obtained from the histories of the formation of the Constitution; yet it would have been convenient to have them here.

To any one with a taste for constitutional antiquities, the work is most enjoyable. There is a delicious Old-World quaintness about the language, and very often about the ideas also. Everything is decorous, and though now and then an orator spoke with warmth, vehemence is discreetly toned down. We are surprised to find ourselves still not quite emerged from an age when people spelt as they pleased and did not care for uniformity. Madison, for instance, a precise and careful person, nevertheless spells the name of Mr. Gorham, delegate from Massachusetts, as "Ghorum," and that of Mr. Ellsworth (from Connecticut) as "Elsworth." The historical illustrations of federalism are almost all drawn either from ancient Greece, and often through Montesquieu, whom they sedulously read, (e. g., the faults of the Amphictyonic Council and the merits of the Lycian federation), or from the Germanic Empire (which they saw to be really a mere confederation, and a weak one), while for the writings of political machinery they usually cite Great Britain. We are constantly reminded of the *Federalist*, in which, of course, Madison and Hamilton repeated the arguments and illustrations they had used in the Convention some months before. But what most strikes the reader is the gulf which seems to separate the political thinkers and constitutional lawyers of that age from any who have since adorned either the United States or any other country. That they should be unlike the men of the French Revolution, who, only two years after the Convention closed its labors at Philadelphia, began their less fruitful labors at Versailles, is natural enough; for the historical antecedents as well as the intellectual characters of the two sets of men were strikingly dissimilar. But the men of the Convention are almost equally unlike any subsequent generation of American statesmen. They are unlike contemporary or subsequent Englishmen. In their time the world of political thought began—and suddenly began—to travel very fast, so that later generations seem to be separated from these sages of

Washington's day by centuries rather than by generations.

A reperusal of their debates does not lessen one's respect for the men of the Convention of 1787. They moved upon a high level, and though the records of their discussions doubtless omit the more trivial arguments of all the speakers and neglect the weakest men altogether, the reader remains impressed by the amount of vigorous thought and clear good sense which was brought to the work. There were among the delegates at least six men of first-rate eminence—George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, Gouverneur Morris, and James Wilson, the three first of whom belong to the history of the world—as well as many others whose ability rises very far above the level of the average capable member of a national legislature, whether in the United States or in any great European state. These are Edmund Randolph, Roger Sherman, Oliver Ellsworth, Robert Morris, Patterson, Gorham, Elbridge Gerry, Livingston, Mason, and Wythe. Some would say the same of Luther Martin, Yates, Baldwin of Georgia, and the two Pinckneys. Considering how small the body was, this shows a remarkable average of talent. It compares favorably with the average of the much smaller body which drafted the Federal Constitution of Canada eighty years later, and favorably also with the Conventions which prepared the Constitutions of the Australian Commonwealth and of the South African Union. The Canadian statesmen did their work in private, but the debates of the Australian Conventions were published, and they do not reach the level of those of 1787.

Some of the most entertaining pages in these volumes are those in which one of the delegates, Pierce of Georgia, gives little personal sketches of his colleagues (Vol. III, p. 87, Appendix cxix). They are written on the whole in an admiring spirit, and (except perhaps in two cases) with no trace of spite; and they help us to realize how the most eminent figures looked and spoke and carried themselves among their fellow-delegates. A little further light on personal traits is thrown by a confidential report sent by the diplomatic representative of France to his own court, in which he describes some of the leading men of the Convention, dwelling especially on their sentiments toward France. The remarks on Hamilton, Rutledge, Randolph, the two Morrisses, and Mifflin are quite interesting (Vol. III, p. 232, Appendix clix). To most people, the appendices, which fill one whole volume, will be the most novel part of the book, for the letters which they contain bring a good deal of comment to bear upon the formal records, and contain not a few instructive anecdotes.

We must refrain, in such a review as this, from entering on any of the larger

questions connected with this most famous of all Constitutional Conventions. To one reflection, however, a few words may be given. The Convention never showed its wisdom better than when it determined to deliberate in secret. Had the public been following the proceedings, the proceedings could hardly have reached any profitable issue. Men were able to say things without the fear of being reported, and of having to explain or defend themselves. The press had not the opportunity of misrepresenting or attacking views and propositions before they had time to be fairly considered. Compromises were infinitely easier when men did not stand committed to the public by words and votes previously recorded. Yet it would, in our day, be virtually impossible, in any modern country, to get leave for any such Convention to exclude the public from its debates, and one may fear that it would be far more difficult than it was then to enforce upon each and every delegate any obligation of secrecy that a Convention might impose. It may, indeed, excite surprise that in England, when large constitutional questions arose, such as that of making a new Constitution for Ireland to regulate her relations with Great Britain, it was not proposed to apply this method of a convention to a situation which eminently called for it. The decision to entrust the making of the Constitution of the United States to a special body, instead of to Congress was, indeed, along with the determination to exclude the public, almost as efficient a cause of the success attained as was the unrivalled statesmanlike capacity of the men who sat in this memorable assembly.

CURRENT FICTION.

The Bramble Bush. By Caroline Fuller. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

A vast amount of good "copy" accumulated in extensive observation of New York's literary and artistic tribe has been worked over into an amazingly diversified literary entertainment. Selected specimens of our rising generation of dramatists, painters, sculptors, poets, critics, journalists, and actresses, supplemented by a few property fathers and mothers, constitute the *dramatis personæ*. A plot which betokens more ingenuity than originality on the designer's part manages to include them all in a kind of mutual benefit association and to contrive a professional success and matrimonial happiness for each aspirant. It also affords unrivalled opportunities to witness the antics of young birds of the artistic feather, as they are to be seen in their city haunts, and more particularly in summer flocks on Long Island Sound; also to hear phonographic records of their chronically clever conversation.

As a sort of moral background for "the whole show," a parable is expounded out of Mother Goose. The Bramble Bush of nursery fame symbolizes "the tearing disillusionments that come to those who pursue art in any form." "All of us get our eyes scratched out at some time or other, and the successful chap is the one who has grit enough to jump into another bush and scratch 'em in again. . . . The cynics are those fellows who stick in the first bush permanently and stay blind." This disposes of the perversities of the artistic temperament very neatly, besides furnishing the theme for enough sweet preaching and admonitory incident to fill a "Pansy" book. Prominent among the pursuers of art through the brambles is a youth who thought he was a cartoonist, wanted to be a composer, and turned out to be a playwright. Another is a young woman who affects depravity, and writes cruel critiques for a living; the author has taken great pains with her fascinations, providing her with the physical equipment of an Oriental sorceress and allowing her to conceal warm, womanly feelings beneath a nipping and an eager air. A third is a lovely fair-haired painter of babies whose sentimental education is accomplished in the course of the narrative. These have their progress in the allegory pointed out to them at intervals by the sanest and most sympathetic of distinguished middle-aged sculptors of established fame.

The author varies her style with her intention, which is by no means stable; she is farcical, romantic, mystical at pleasure. Variety is her notion of excellence, and she has not sufficient sense of humor to permit her to be serious with impunity.

A Question of Marriage. By Mrs. George De Horne Vaizey. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

The merits of this book lie in its readableness and in the bits of philosophy, humor, truth, and sweet reasonableness that lie along the way. The central incident is distinctly unphilosophical, but as it defeats itself in the end, it must be supposed that the author intended to enforce her point by making highly reasonable folk temporarily guilty of deeply unreasonable conduct. Vanna Strangeways, sprung from a family tainted with persistent madness, is warned against marriage by a great physician. She highly resolves, is sorely tempted, and enters into an engagement with definite understanding that it shall never be fulfilled. "Engaged not to be married," a friend pertinently puts it. The eight years' duration of this bond is the credulity-taxing part of the story. Its rupture and the triumph of good sense restore the tale to a normal plane. Meanwhile, without any very di-

rect bearing on the main point, the life, love-affairs, and happy marriage of the lively, brilliant Jean are fully chronicled. Various lesser characters are introduced with good effect; comments, reflections, wise and witty conclusions, emanate from actors and author. But above all improbability rises a wholesome lesson—that it is within and not without that one is to look for content. The use of the utterly trivial matter that on the final page drives this home to Vanna's consciousness, made receptive by her sufferings, and generosity, her sense of justice, is a little touch of truth which is characteristic of the author's way of putting things.

The Return. By Walter De La Mare. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

To look into a mirror and to see there not one's own face, but a strange one, may well curdle the blood and raise the hair. Add to this manifestation the efforts of a French suicide, two centuries dead, to repossess himself of a mortal abode, and we have the chief elements of a story of supernaturalism standing well above its fellows. One point of superiority is the absence of the aggressively material, which as a rule offsets the intangible. Though details are carefully worked out, the general impression is of spiritual phenomena. There is a sense of Hawthorne translated into a more modern form of expression. Another feature not usually found in this class of writings is the quite remarkable clearness and originality of character-painting. Here are characters consistently modelled and intrinsically striking. An aloofness of touch, a restraint in particularizing, do but add to the impalpable quality of the terror which haunts the tale. The story is not easily communicable, even were it desirable to forestall interest. But the reader may safely be promised tremors more inwardly racking than the bodily quake caused by the ordinary spook.

The Royal Pawn of Venice. By Mrs. Lawrence Turnbull. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

The time of this typical historical romance is the latter half of the fifteenth century; the place, Cyprus. The central figure is that of Caterina Cornaro of Venice, who became a luckless Queen of Cyprus. The action coincides with her career as Queen. As is common in this sort of story, the appeal is chiefly made to a sense of reverence for royalty approaching worship—especially for young feminine royalty—which appears to be undying in the human breast. The writer of this book evidently possesses this sense in extraordinary intensity. A portrait of Caterina by Titian is reproduced as frontispiece. With this portrait, we are given to understand, the dashing young King of Cyprus first fell

in love. One day he obtains "sight of the girl's fair face with its tender flush like a flower in spring, painted with skill by the greatest artist of Venice. The breeze might have toyed with that mist of golden hair, and the great dark eyes—softly luminous—had the expectancy of a gazelle awaiting the joy of the daydawn." Now as for the color of the lady's cheek and hair, they were no doubt what Titian would have made them. Her total effect, however, to the disinterested eye, is that of a rather stout nurse-maid in somebody else's Sunday clothes, with a dull face and a sly glance—as who should expect a policeman at the nearest corner. But Mrs. Turnbull does not profess a disinterested eye—she would scorn such a thing, no doubt. To her Caterina is a bride fit to mate with a young monarch who is "beautiful as a young god"; and her career has all the glamour of that divinity which hedges royalty. Those who share her prepossession will no doubt find the story worth reading. Those who demand of their fiction the presentation of characters and action of inherent rather than adventitious interest will not care for it.

TWO BOOKS ON MONGOLIA.

The Face of Manchuria, Korea and Russian Turkestan. Written and illustrated with twenty-two plates by E. G. Kemp, F.R.S.G.S. New York: Duffield & Co. \$2.50.

Tramps in Dark Mongolia. By John Hedley, F.R.G.S. With illustrations and a map. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. \$3.50.

These two books on different portions of the vast area once under Mongol domination offer some suggestive contrasts. The author of "The Face of Manchuria" represents the intelligent globe-trotter, primed with information from guide books and foreign residents, whose journey was made possible by those railway lines which are things of yesterday. Mr. Hedley, a missionary among the Chinese of upper Chihli and a careful student of the people to whom he devotes his life, explores unknown roads on foot and pony where Europeans are never seen. The one is a volume of superficial impressions, showing how readily an unprotected woman may now visit regions which a generation ago were fast sealed to the most intrepid traveler. The other reveals the character and attitude of peoples in the same region still untouched by the railway.

"The Face of Manchuria" is frankly personal, being occupied with many of those details that bulk large in a traveller's experience. The author does not leave upon the reader an exalted idea of the comforts of travel: in Chinese and Russian railway trains, but her temper is good

and she grumbles quite contentedly. Much the most acceptable feature of her book is its array of sketches in water color, some of which present the color value of buildings and landscapes with considerable charm, though the drawing often leaves something to be desired. We get a notion of the author's pertinacity in reading the story of her success in obtaining one of these sketches. Within the past two years access to the tomb of the murdered Queen Min, outside of the capital of Korea, has been denied to visitors because of wanton outrages committed upon its monuments by European tourists. This tourist, however, was determined to climb a hill and see it:

I decided not to wait for permission, and hastily ran up to a beautiful spot commanding a fine view over the plain with the tomb immediately below me, and set to work with the utmost dispatch. I had the pleasure of seeing the other visitors arrive and get sent away, and then the guard came up to dislodge me. I met him with a disarming smile, and showed him the sketch, ignoring his obvious intention. Our American friend was greatly concerned as to the righteousness of feigning ignorance, for she understood and translated all they were saying, such as that no one was allowed there except people of great importance, etc., etc. Further shouting from below to send us away was followed by the slow climbing of the hill by other officials. I greeted them in the same way as the first, and it had an equally disarming effect; they seemed quite nonplussed, and before they could decide how to act the sketch was finished, and I presented them with an acceptable *douceur*, and said good-by. Their refusal to allow people to approach the tomb, where only the little finger of the Empress is buried, is quite reasonable, for the dearest Korean feelings have been outraged by the wanton disregard shown by visitors who have amused themselves by pretending to ride the stone animals and otherwise "fooling" about the spot.

In consequence of which little escapade, we are likely to hear that the whole enclosure is hereafter to be barred to foreigners.

The description of the three towns visited in Russian Turkestan does not add greatly to our knowledge of that wonderful land, though the artistic soul of the author is aroused by its picturesqueness and color to impassioned and almost pathetic efforts to find expression in words.

Mr. Hedley's account of the edge of Mongolia beyond the wall is a book of another sort, having to do with missions only incidentally. His three journeys include a part of the territory where the famous Gilmour labored, apparently in vain, a score of years ago. The Chinese in this border land are still foreigners, but the Mongols are at disadvantage in competing with them. Like the Reservation Indian, the Mongol is a pretty good fellow, if left alone, ingenious, direct, and easily tempted,

but he is a lazy skunk, and one finds it hard to forgive laziness. In the district of which I am now writing he neither sows nor gathers into barns, and yet he revels in such luxury as suits his environment. He smokes, he drinks whiskey, and likes a lot of it; he gambles; he talks; he idles around all day and every day, and only wakes up when the hunting falls due, and then he spends three days each month chasing terrified hares across the plains, or trying to bring down pheasants with his ancient matchlock.

As the Chinese is more industrious and capable than the simple Mongol, it follows inevitably that the steppes from which the latter has raided his civilized neighbor for thousands of years will pass at length into hands that know how to cultivate them, and one of the most remarkable fighting races known to history will be extinguished by the relentless action of the law of the survival of the fittest. It is surprising to be told that the doom of the race is hastened by its excessive religiosity. The Mongols are devout followers of that form of Buddhism called Lamaism, the economic effects of which are similar to those from which the Eastern Empire of Rome was rescued by the efforts of Leo the Isaurian in the eighth century. As in Tibet, the source of the creed, the youth of both sexes in Mongolia is withdrawn into monasteries, but unlike Tibet, Mongolia needs a larger population. The priests, declares Mr. Hedley, live unproductive and therefore worthless lives. They do not work in the fields; they do not herd the flocks; some few do practise medicine, but it is a case of Heaven help the patient! The only thing they seem to do beyond their ecclesiastical tasks is in community to prepare the food for their meals, and even that is brought to them by their parishioners. . . . Morally, Lamaism is an open and filthy sore. It is simply impossible to reproduce in print the tales everywhere heard of vice and immorality of the most virulent and shameless character. The pen is not made that could write it all down. It must be left to the imagination to picture the worst orgies of the cities of the plain, or the fashionable vices of the satiated rakes of ancient Rome or modern Babylon to come anywhere near an appreciation of what is commonly known to take place in these monasteries of the Mongol deserts and plains. Think of scores and even hundreds of men, strong, lusty, full-blooded young fellows living under a vow of celibacy, and yet conscious of no restraint from their religion in regard to the blackest and vilest sins.

One gets from this description a distinctly new conception of the life of the steppe. These are conditions affecting nearly half of the area of the Chinese Empire. Instead of the free, if primitive people of our imaginations, the Mongols have become since their great conquest of China a worthless and corrupt people, content to live on the labor of their women, bound body and soul by their religious leaders. Lamaism appears to offer a far more effective ob-

stacle to Christianity than is to be found anywhere in China proper. "The attempt to evangelize Mongolia," we are told, "presents one of the greatest problems that faces Christian enterprise today. The land is so wide and immense, the means of communication so expensive and precarious, the population so sparse and scattered, the people so ignorant, and as a consequence so superstitious, that the task might well appal the stoutest heart and try the strongest faith." Thus far the efforts of Christianity seem to have met with no success whatever. One missionary who lives among them confesses that he knows of only one Mongol who can be called a sincere Christian man.

The most notable place visited by the author in these tours was Jehol, the Ch'eng te Fu of the Chinese, from the Portuguese spelling of which name Cole-ridge is supposed to have got his "Xanadu," where Kubla Khan decreed a state-ly pleasure dome. Its historical importance is chiefly due to its palace, where the Emperor Chien Lung received Lord Macartney in 1795, and where another emperor, Hsien Feng, died after running away from the English in 1861. Entrance to the palace and to the great Potala, built in imitation of the Vatican of Lamaism in Lhasa, is denied the foreign tourist, but some idea of their great enclosures may be derived from views from the surrounding hills. Other considerable buildings in the town convey a suggestion that much might be found here by a trained investigator to supply material for the study of Buddhist art in recent centuries.

Mr. Hedley's numerous photographs and a map of the region between the Shira muren and the Great Wall drawn from his own surveys add appreciably to the value of a book which is likely to remain long the best authority on this little known portion of Asia.

Complete Poems of Edgar Allan Poe.
 Edited by J. H. Whitty. Boston:
 Houghton Mifflin Co. \$2 net.

This new edition of Poe is doubtless of much more importance to the specialist than to the general reader; but in these days, when even the general reader demands a complete and scrupulous text, the volume will be a formidable competitor in popular favor with all other editions. Poe, as is well known, was continually revising his poems with a care and an intelligence which give exceptional value to his latest emendations, and it is Mr. Whitty's good fortune to be able to present for the first time what seem indisputably to be Poe's last revisions of several of the most important of the poems. These revisions were made for the Richmond *Examiner* during Poe's last visit to the Virginia city, and he appears not to have lived long enough to subject any

of them to further changes. The proofs of the poems revised for the *Examiner* passed into the hands of Poe's friend, the now forgotten writer, F. W. Thomas—forgotten, that is, save in connection with Poe—and the authenticity of the changes is beyond dispute. That readers of Poe will profit greatly from the fact that they can now read several favorite poems in slightly altered forms is a question of taste into which we need not enter. It is also a question of taste whether the eight poems "now first collected," which Mr. Whitty prints with ample proofs of genuineness, will at all enhance Poe's reputation. It is certain, however, that in his Appendix and in his "Notes and Variorum Text" Mr. Whitty has performed with great patience and success a task for which he should receive the hearty thanks of all students of Poe. It is probable that for many years to come editors of Poe's poems will draw largely upon the information, textual and other, here put in convenient form. It is to be hoped that they will never forget to make due acknowledgments to Mr. Whitty, and it is also to be hoped that he himself may be persuaded some day to give the fullest kind of record of his own experiences as a Poe collector, including, when possible, the present abiding place of all known Poe MSS. and other relics.

The memoir of nearly seventy pages prefixed to Mr. Whitty's edition is, as he tells us, "the fruit of researches extending over a period of thirty years." Like the text, this memoir is in many respects new and authoritative and mainly valuable to the special student of Poe. Emphasis is naturally put upon Mr. Whitty's own discoveries and upon his own views on such moot points as Poe's visit to England shortly before the publication of "Tamerlane." The result is a sketch which, in our judgment, new or merely casual readers of Poe may find unsatisfactory as a short biography and as a critical exposition of Poe's character and of the nature and worth of his poetry. For general purposes, then, the introductory matter of the Stedman-Woodberry edition of the poems is not superseded. But no future biographer can dispense with this memoir any more than any future editor of Poe can dispense with Mr. Whitty's textual apparatus. Its chief value seems to consist in a large number of details, few of which are important in themselves, but which singly and collectively help the student to develop new views and to alter or supplement old views. Perhaps the most important point is the frank treatment of the domestic troubles of Poe's adopted parents, but some may be inclined to dispute this statement and to find in Mr. Whitty's accounts of Poe's two visits to Richmond in 1848 and 1849 the most valuable contribution made by the memoir, although Professor Woodberry,

to whom this edition is appropriately dedicated, dealt very fully with both events in his expanded biography. Mr. Whitty's reference to the mysterious letters owned by the Valentine Museum in Richmond leaves one almost as much in the dark as did Professor Woodberry's reticent mention of the same documents. True, the latest authority informs us that these letters were read to a "small select audience in Richmond some years ago," and that they are said, "taken with the notations" upon them made by Mr. Allan, "to give an impression that Poe was ungrateful to his patron." But what if they refer to facts in Poe's life which, interpreted by students, not by select listeners, make his youthful years seem the very nadir of his life? Might they not, in such a case, help to relieve instead of darkening his character? Ought they to be kept entirely unpublished? Might they not be given to the public with the excisions, which we gather from a remark of Mr. Whitty's to be desirable? However these questions may be answered, we are sure of one thing, viz., that the minutest biographical gleanings with regard to Poe ought to be received gratefully, since the world still lacks a biography of him strong on the side of sympathetic, not partisan, interpretation. Mr. Whitty's researches seem to us to make the task of such a biographer lighter and to encourage future gleaners.

Sectionalism in Virginia from 1776 to 1861. By Charles Henry Ambler, Ph.D. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. \$1.50 net.

The study of sectionalism as a factor to be reckoned with is becoming a conspicuous feature of historical investigation in this country. By sectionalism is meant not the rivalry between the North and South culminating in the civil war or the hatred and jealousy of parties representative of different portions of the country, but rather the struggle, often unconscious, between regions of smaller area—sometimes included within the boundaries of a single State and sometimes embracing parts of many States—that represent common racial, economic, or religious interests. Such sections are the tidewater and the back country in colonial times, the trans-Alleghany country, the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys, the lake region, and the Western plains later. State boundaries are often artificial divisions without significance as landmarks of national progress and expansion. Historical writers are recognizing the necessity of a more thorough understanding of sectional peculiarities before attempting to explain the operation of such local and national issues as the tariff, slavery, suffrage, internal improvements, and the like.

Toward the end of our colonial period, when the region between the older settlements of the coast and the foot-hills of the Alleghanies began to be settled by a mixed population of Scotch, Irish, and German sectaries, a new section came into being. It was surcharged with new interests and motives. It was more democratic and individualistic than the tidewater; it had needs and ideals that were unknown to the older settlers; and it frequently opposed the policy of the colonial governments where the conservative classes held dominant political control. This sectional struggle appeared in nearly all the colonies from New England southward, and eventually led to modifications in governmental policy and in some instances to actual dismemberment. Nowhere was the struggle more prolonged than in Virginia, where for a century tidewater and up-country and mountain sought to accommodate their conflicting interests, only to end in the withdrawal of the mountain sections and the establishment of West Virginia as a separate State.

The conflict forms the subject to which Dr. Ambler has addressed himself in this excellent work. He has traced the ramifications of the controversy as fought out in the halls of assembly and on the stump from colonial times to 1861. He has shown wherein the economic conditions of both upland South and mountain territory were at variance with those of the conservative low country and has noted the effects in party rivalries and acts of legislation. His treatment falls naturally into three periods: the first ending with Bacon's rebellion in 1676; the second with the constitutional convention of 1829-30; and the third with the dismemberment of the State in 1861. The first great outcome of the conflict was the overthrow of the established church and the abolition of the system of entails, which produced democratic equality in Virginia. Constitutional and economic reforms followed the supremacy of the Republicans in 1801 and the decline of the East in population and industrial activity after 1818. The West was growing more important and influential, but was not strong enough to settle the issue in the constitutional convention of 1829-30. The victory of the conservatives transferred the centre of discontent from the upland to the mountain, and marked the line of sectional conflict between the areas which are now Virginia and West Virginia. The idea of a new State began to take form. The divergence of view between East and West on the subject of slavery and representation intensified the differences, and local issues began to blend into national issues. The mountain opposed secession from the Union. Controversies over education and a split in the Methodist Episcopal church increased the sectional rivalries, and when Virginia seceded from the

Union, West Virginia seceded from Virginia.

Dr. Ambler has, for the most part, performed his task with thoroughness and care. His search has been wide and his presentation of the theme is characterized by justice and impartiality. Crudities of style are an occasional defect, and one feels at times that the author adhered too often and too closely to the merely political aspects of his subject.

Notes

A popular-priced edition of Price Collier's "England and the English" has been published by Scribners. Lord Rosebery furnishes a preface in which he says that the book is "probably the best ever written by an American about England."

In a letter printed in the *Nation* of April 6, Andrew Lang gave some account of a book called "The Adventure," which related the mystifying vision of two ladies at *le petit Trianon*. The book is now published in this country by the Macmillan Co.

The American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia announces that an award of the Henry M. Phillips prize will be made during the year 1912. The subject upon which essays may be written is: The treaty-making power of the United States and the methods of its enforcement as affecting the police powers of the States. The essay is limited to 100,000 words, exclusive of notes, which should be kept separate as an appendix. The award is \$2,000.

In the autumn B. W. Huebsch will publish John Nolen's "Replanning Small Cities," a study of six American towns: Roanoke, Va.; San Diego, Cal.; Montclair, N. J.; Glen Ridge, N. J.; Reading, Pa., and Madison, Wis.

June 24 has been set by the Century Company for the date of issue of "Thorpe's Way," by Morley Roberts, a novel which is described as a blend of mediæval romance and modern socialism.

Doubleday, Page & Co. will bring out in the summer or early autumn: "The Recording Angel," by Mrs. Corra Harris; "Cicely," a civil war romance by Sara Beaumont Kennedy; Rudyard Kipling's "History of England," written in collaboration with C. R. L. Fletcher; Bouck White's "The Call of the Carpenter," meaning Christ, and a new biography of Andrew Jackson, by Prof. John Spencer Bassett.

The T. Y. Crowell Company has in its list of announcements: "Man: King of Mind, Body, and Circumstance"; "The Eight Pillars of Prosperity," both by James Allen; in fiction: "A Watcher of the Skies," by Gustave F. Mertins; "Ranier of the Last Frontier," by John Marvin Dean; "Monna Lisa," by Guglielmo Scala, and a railway story, "On the Iron at Big Cloud," by Frank L. Packard.

"The Legacy of Past Years: a Study of Irish History" is a forthcoming book by Lord Dunraven; it is in the press of John Murray.

An essay by A. R. Orage on "Nietzsche, the Dionysian Spirit of the Age," has been

published by A. C. McClurg & Co. It is a clear enough exposition of Nietzsche from the point of view of a professed follower. Mr. Orage admits the nebulous character of the Superman as defined by Nietzsche, but does not see how deeply this constructive weakness vitiates the whole attempt to found a system of ethics "beyond good and evil." The book is less valuable than Mr. Orage's own "Nietzsche in Outline and Aphorism," published last year.

Under the title "Palæographia Iberica," Prof. John M. Burnam, of the University of Cincinnati, hopes to publish, through the Librairie Ancienne Honoré Champion, 5, Quai Malaquais, Paris, a collection of facsimiles of manuscripts and documents (in Latin and the vulgar tongues) of Spain and Portugal. These facsimiles, made from manuscripts in the principal libraries of Europe, will be accompanied by transcriptions, bibliographical and palæographical notices, and will be issued in a work of three hundred numbered copies, arranged in fifteen fascicules of about twenty plates each. The price will be at the rate of twenty-five francs the fascicule, but subscriptions, of which about one hundred and twenty are needed to prevent financial loss, must be made for the work entire.

"Three Middle English Romances: King Horn, Havelok, Beves of Hampton" (D. Nutt), retold by Laura A. Hibbard of Mount Holyoke College, conforms in size and design to the well-known series, Arthurian Romances unrepresented in Malory, which is issued by the same house. It would not have served the purpose of the book, which is to extend a knowledge of these romances to wider circles, if the edition had offered literal translations of the originals. The author has been wise, accordingly, in paraphrasing the stories, while using sufficiently archaic English to reproduce to a considerable degree the charm of the Middle English texts. The brief Bibliographical Note, which is prefixed to the paraphrases, simply swarms with misprints and seems to betray, besides, a rather feeble grasp on German inflections. Why, moreover, should Miss Hibbard give in this note only Skeat's old edition of "Havelok," issued in 1868, and not mention the more recent edition (Clarendon Press, 1901) by the same editor? Indeed, Holthausen's edition was also worth adding to the list.

The most recent volume of the series of Original Narratives of Early American History (Scribner) is devoted to narratives of early Carolina and is edited by Alexander S. Salley, Jr., secretary of the Historical Commission of South Carolina. It contains no material hitherto unprinted, but includes a very fine collection of reprints of rare documents and tracts that are probably less familiar to the general reader than are many of the texts printed in previous volumes. The earliest narrative is that of Edward Bland, 1650, entitled "The Discovery of New Brittain" and written to attract settlers to the region south of Virginia. Other pamphlets of a similar character are Yeardley's letter to Ferrar, 1654; Hilton's "Relation," which was used by the proprietors in 1664 for advertising purposes; Horne's "Description," 1666, likewise used to hasten the sale of the proprietor's real estate, and Wilson's "Account of Carolina," 1682, which extols the province as a place for settlers. Among the most valuable documents are

Thomas Newe's letters, written in 1682 to his father in Oxford; Sandford's "Voyage," 1665, found among the Shaftesbury papers, and the "Journal" of Elder Pratt, 1697, now in the possession of one of his descendants. Defoe's long pamphlet entitled "Party-Tyranny" is not of much value for the history of Carolina, and the very partisan production of John Ash, 1706, because of its unreliable character, does not deserve a place in the collection. Even the elaborate extract from Oldmixon's "British Empire" must be used with very great caution, as that Whig pamphleteer is a very untrustworthy historian. It is noteworthy how large a part of this volume is made up of publications designed for advertising or party purposes. For this reason Archdale's "Description of Carolina," 1707, is particularly welcome as a sober historical work. Among the early selections Tavernier's account of his voyage in 1632 might well have been included, since, though brief, it is an interesting narrative and has never been printed.

Since Unitarianism is an attitude of mind rather than a fixed body of doctrine, the attempt to define the religious beliefs for which Unitarians stand is attended with great difficulty. Prof. Ephraim Emerton of Harvard University essays the task in a volume entitled "Unitarian Thought" (Macmillan). He endeavors to show that Unitarianism is neither a religious philosophy nor a system of morals, but a vital and earnest faith. He is also concerned to prove that Unitarians are not occupied exclusively with negations, but that their teachings offer positive and permanent principles. With these objects in mind he discusses the Unitarian position on such topics as Miracle, The Nature of Man, Jesus, and The Future Life. Liberal views are set forth with entire candor, in lucid style, with clear pronouncement on subjects of general religious interests. There is no attempt to make the Unitarian position less objectionable by concealment of its radical departure from accepted views or of its confession of doubt and uncertainty at many points where orthodox believers are more positive. The volume is well calculated to remove prejudices and spread information. It would be well if other respectable denominations engaged in similar propaganda, and did not leave all the proselyting to the religious vagabonds.

The third volume of Hastings's "Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics" (Scribner) maintains the high standard of the preceding volumes (see *Nation* for February 18, 1909, and April 21, 1910); the material is varied and full, the treatment in general satisfactory. The convenient "combination" form (an introductory general survey of a topic, with separate articles for the various regions or religions) is employed freely; so articles Calendar, Catechisms, Celibacy, Charity (almsgiving), Charms and Amulets, Chastity, Concubinage, Children, Circumcision, Communion with the Dead, Communion with Deity, Confession. The survey of the various calendary systems of the world is of permanent value, consisting of reports of specialists, with references to the original sources of information, so that the reader is in position to check the conclusions of the writers. The articles on celibacy and concubinage, in showing the degree of license that has prevailed in Christian ecclesiastical circles at certain times, suggest

that the progress of Christian morality (like that of Greece and Rome) has been largely dependent on the general advance of society. Care for the poor as a human instinct is illustrated by the accounts of early charitable customs and institutions, pre-Christian and Christian. Usages in respect to circumcision are given in great detail, and there are discussions of the origin of the custom which mostly fall into the error of ascribing it to impossibly refined ideas (dedication to a deity and the like); but it is certain that it originated in a state of low savagery, and the motive for it must be sought rather in the desire for bodily enjoyment. In the article on communion with deity the term "communion" is often used in a loose way, being made to cover every form of approach to a supernatural power; but when the savage brings his offering and his request for some good, his one concern is that his prayer may be favorably received—it is only in relatively high forms of religion that there is anything like converse of souls, communion in the sense in which the word is generally understood.

One of the most useful functions of an encyclopædia of this sort is the gathering, from trustworthy sources, of the customs of low tribes whose history is not accessible to any but specialists. A large number of such tribes, in Asia and the Americas, are described in the present volume. Apart from the vast variety of religious usages, what is especially noteworthy is the persistence of lower customs where tribes have come under the influence of higher religions. The Mongolian Buriats have in part adopted Buddhism, but the old shamanism and crude polytheism assert themselves everywhere; in Buddhist Burma the actual religion of a large portion of the people is tinged with the old demonism, and this is true also to some extent of the Christianized Karens; the Chams of Indo-China have a queer mixture of faiths, Brahmanic, Buddhist, Mohammedan, pagan. Some obscure tribes, like the South American Mozcas, and particularly the Chuhras of the Panjab show a remarkably high development; the system of the latter is so nearly like Christianity that one might suspect borrowing, but of this there is no proof. For the supposition of a Cherokee androgynous deity (p. 504, col. 1) there is no warrant in the facts. The more advanced religious systems are well represented; we have various Vaishnava sects, Buddhism in China and Ceylon, Calvinism, Christadelphians, Christian Science, the British Church, the Church of England, the Church Army, Clericalism and Anticlericalism, Communistic Societies of America. There are articles on the idea of the Church and on its doctrine, and a very elaborate history of Confessions. The article Christianity quietly assumes, without discussion, that the Christian religion is essentially the developed trinitarian system of the creeds, and ignores all other forms, so that it might seem as though the author of the article had never read the Sermon on the Mount. Among general religious articles we may note the excellent account (in Cæsarism) of how naturally the Romans come to the worship of the emperors. A very large and carefully prepared collection of facts illustrates the religion of the Canaanites in the time before the advent of the Hebrews. Under the heading Celts, the effort is made to put into shape what is known of the Gallic,

Irish, and British divinities and religious usages and ideas. The article Cherub, missing the chronological order of treatment (beginning with Eden and the wilderness tabernacle instead of with Solomon's temple), fails to note the Phœnician mythological character of the figure.

The Pali Text Society (Henry Frowde, Oxford University Press) has recently published, under the able authorship of Mrs. Rhys Davids, a translation of the important text called "Abhidhammattha-Sangaha," which was published by the same society in 1884. The translation, entitled "Compendium of Philosophy," appears as the work of a native Burmese scholar, S. Z. Aung, who has also written an introduction, with comments on the text in the form of an appendix. Mrs. Rhys Davids has furnished a preface containing the history of the text. To the general reader the most valuable part of the book is the introductory essay by Mr. Aung. The Compendium itself might better be called a compendium of metaphysical categories than a compendium of philosophy. It is a manual for students, written probably eight or ten centuries ago by one Anuruddha of Ceylon, a work later than the complementary "Visuddhi Magga," and differing from it in that the latter is psychological only by way of attaining to its ethical end, whereas the Compendium is solely psychological. The list of errata is rather trying to the scholar, betraying a somewhat perfunctory attention to details. To speak of other lands than India as "not the daughters—*orasa jāta*, mouth-born, of the Exalted One's own ministry," makes one wonder what "mouth" means. Can Mrs. Rhys Davids have been thinking of the Latin word for mouth?

Under the caption of "A Philadelphia Lawyer in the London Courts" (Holt) Thomas Leaming puts into instructive form the results of certain reading and observation. The volume would be welcome, even without the inappropriate excuse that "nothing in print is available" from which much can be learned concerning the judges, barristers, and solicitors of present England. Headlam's "Inns of Court," Pitt-Lewis's "History of the Temple," and Loftie's "Inns of Courts," are among the most recent of the several available books on one branch of the subject, while Duckers's "Guide to Students' Law Books" contains a full statement of the processes of becoming solicitor and barrister, and the "New Guide to the Bar," by "LL.B.," is most thorough and practical. However, it is common to treat the literature of the English bar as a sealed book. Even in his chapter on The Making of Lawyers, Mr. Leaming gives no reference to the prolonged discussion in England with regard to an improvement in legal education and the possible recognition by the Inns of the work of the universities, a movement not infrequently accompanied by the veiled threat of possible action by Parliament in limitation of the prescriptive rights of the Inns. Of the fifteen chapters in this book, two contain material somewhat new to American readers, that on Masters—the Time Savers, and that on Discipline of the Bar and Solicitors. It will surprise the American lawyer to note the large amount of preliminaries which are disposed of by a master in order to simplify and shorten the actual trial. Of the practice before masters, Mr. Leaming men-

tions the "tender of damages" as "one of the cleverest contrivances" of their practice, though it is apparently not unlike an "offer of judgment" as known in New York procedure. The chapter on discipline presents facts as to English standards and customs which may well startle some American practitioners. There is a chapter on the Central Criminal Court and one on the Dying trial, but neither these nor such chapters as that on fees add very much either to the facts or to the atmosphere which are found in Serjeant Robinson's "Reminiscences" or the "Life" of Baron Brampton. This is all the more to be regretted, as the style of narrative, the conciseness of statement, and the wealth of allusion make this book one which certainly the lawyer, and probably many laymen, will wish to finish at one sitting, and not hurriedly. The chapters on the fields of activity of the barrister and of the solicitor are well done; and throughout there runs a strain of sympathetic comparison of the English and American systems. We hope to see the author appear again, and as "A Philadelphia Lawyer at Home."

A new edition has been published of B. Lundstedt's volume about "Tidningsmän" in "Svenskt Porträttgalleri." It contains above 800 portraits with accompanying brief sketches, giving merely the chief biographical data, of men and women who during the last fifty years have been more or less regularly connected with the press of Sweden. As the Swedish newspapers, like the German and French, and to a much larger extent than the American, offer their readers scientific and literary studies of high value, they attract writers of reputation in all lines. Hence this volume will prove a useful reference book. The volume is, in a way, a supplement to the latter part of the author's bibliographical work "Sveriges periodiska litteratur, 1645-1899."

"Bihang II" to Claes Annerstedt's "Upsala Universitets Historia," containing documents covering the period between 1655 and 1694, has now been completed, after having been issued in parts with various "Rektorsprogram." Among the more interesting items in the volume we find, under date of 1687, the communications of the university faculties of medicine, theology, and philosophy concerning Cartesianism.

Clement B. Shaw, already known as translator of Tegnér's "Frithlof's saga," has again tried his hand, and with much success, at metrical translation from the Swedish; this time it is a translation of J. O. Wallin's "Dödens engel" ("The Angel of Death," Chicago: Engberg-Holmberg Pub. Co.). The stately stanzas, as well as the spirit of the original, are well rendered.

Col. Charles William Larned, dean of the United States Military Academy, and author of "The Great Discourse," died on Monday last, aged sixty-one.

Hiram Corson, who since 1903 had been a professor emeritus at Cornell, died a week ago at the age of eighty-two. In 1870 he was elected professor of rhetoric, oratory, and English literature at Cornell. He was noted for his reading of Tennyson, Browning, and Milton, and was the author of many books, among them being: "An Elocutionary Manual," "Handbook of Anglo-Saxon and Early English," "The University of the Future," "The Claims of Literary Culture," "The Idea of Personality and of

Art as an Agency of Personality, as embodied in Browning's Poetry," "An Introduction to the Study of Robert Browning's Poetry," "An Introduction to the Study of Shakespeare," "The Aims of Literary Study," and "An Introduction to the Prose and Poetical Works of John Milton." Besides, he edited parts of Chaucer, Juvenal, and other writers.

Carlo Leonardo Speranza, professor of Italian in Columbia University, died on Saturday of last week, in his seventieth year. He specialized in Dante, and in 1897 was made a chevalier of the crown of Italy, because of his attainments in scholarship and his work in behalf of Italian immigrants in this city.

The death is announced of Dr. John Campbell Oman, sometime professor in the Government College of Lahore, India, and author of "The Great Indian Epics," "The Mystics, Ascetics, and Saints of India," "The Brahmins, Theists, and Muslims of India," and "Cults, Customs, and Superstitions of India."

Dr. Paul Ewald, professor of New Testament exegesis, is dead in Erlangen, aged fifty-four. Among his important works are: "Über das Verhältnis der systematischen Theologie zur Schriftwissenschaft," "Glaubwürdigkeit der Evangelien," and "Der Kanon des Neuen Testaments."

Science

Prof. Charles S. Sergeant is publishing through Houghton Mifflin Co. part III, Vol. II of his work on "Trees and Shrubs."

The Century Co. has in the press "A Laboratory Outline of Organic Chemistry," by Prof. Lauder William Jones.

The grosbeak, it seems, is a much maligned bird, for, according to Farmer's Bulletin 456, just issued by Secretary Wilson, it serves its country by destroying certain of our worst insect pests, notably the potato bug.

The *Annales de Géographie* for May opens with a suggestive article by the editor, Vidal de la Blache, on the relation of human life to its geographical environment. He emphasizes the value of the different seasons in giving to man "numerous possibilities of intervention and initiative," while the uniform climate affords no such stimulant. In treating the forest problems he remarks that we must look for their solution to the United States. Among the other contents is an illustrated description of the ancient Ægean lake in the Balkan Peninsula, contributed by Prof. J. Cuijic of the University of Belgrade. There is also an account, with a map, of the railways of Central America, by Count M. de Périgny. We regret that we must call attention to the erroneous statement in the geographical notes that "the United States has just bought the Galapagos Islands from the Republic of Ecuador, for the sum of 175,000,000 francs." To this supposed fact is attributed the recent scientific Chilean expedition to Easter Island, which has for its aim not simply the establishing of a seismograph but the affirmation of the ownership by Chile.

The spread of the plague and other epidemics during the last fourteen years is

described by Dr. R. Pösch in *Petermann's Mitteilungen* for April. With the aid of a chart of the world and a map of a part of eastern Asia he shows how the railways and the steamships have aroused from their sleep, as it were, almost forgotten diseases. The economic conditions of the Lesser Antilles are treated by Dr. K. Sapper, who says in conclusion that the study of these islands has given valuable information in regard to the worth of certain colonial institutions. In the notices of geographical literature special prominence is given to the publications of the United States Geological Survey. In the military section Major F. Immanuel emphasizes the strategic importance of Korea to Japan in her relations to China and Russia. There is also an account of the proposed fortifications of the Panama Canal.

A missionary book, embodying much sound doctrine, is "Farm Dairying" (McClurg), by Laura Rose. Its limited scope lends definiteness, its advice is clear and good, and the illustrations are well chosen. In fact, the diagrams showing the increase of bacteria under bad conditions are enough to convert even the old-style farmer to the use of cleanliness and ice. A useful feature is the dozen blank pages for notes.

A concise little volume containing much of interest, but virtually nothing new, to the student of geography is one recently prepared by Dr. Josef Stölzer, a member of the faculty in the Handelsakademie of Vienna, entitled "Grundriss der Allgemeinen Wirtschafts- und Verkehrsgeographie" (Vienna and Leipzig: Carl Fromme). The writer approaches the subject from the more modern as also from the scientific point of view, in that his study of economic or commercial geography is based first of all upon the physical sciences. The book is divided into six chapters, the first two of which, embracing about one-half of the whole volume, are devoted to the more significant matters in physical geography, and serve as an appropriate introduction to the treatment which follows.

A noticeable characteristic of Charles Morris's "Industrial and Commercial Geography" (Lippincott) is the plain though forcible manner in which the writer tells the story of the leading industries of the principal countries of the world, and of the commerce which results from the exchange of the surplus product of man's labor. The aim of the book, as stated by its author, is to show what nature has done toward preparing the various regions of the earth for human occupation, and what man himself has done toward adapting himself to natural conditions and modifying his environment. Furthermore, "it attempts to point out why the great cities of the earth have grown up where they are, and why some of them have become active centres of manufacture and others of commerce; why some lands are thickly and some thinly settled, and what are the products and industries to which the various nations owe their prosperity." In spite of this declaration, it seems fair to say that the present volume is partly open to the same general criticism as its elementary predecessors which have dealt with "commercial," "economic," or "industrial" geography, in that it contains, after all, much of description and comparatively little of

actual explanation of the conditions portrayed. It is, nevertheless, less "dry" than was its typical predecessor, and its mastery will give the youths of our schools a pretty good idea of what man has done and is now doing with his physical environment. The book contains a liberal number of maps and illustrations, many of which have been reproduced by permission of the Philadelphia museums.

"Elements of Geology" (American Book Company), by Elliot Blackwelder and Harlan H. Barrows, is a clearly expressed and well-illustrated volume, which begins, as it should, with the minerals and rocks of which the earth consists. When these have been described, the physical changes in the outer shell, such as folds, faults, vulcanism, and metamorphism, are passed in review, and next the modifying effects upon the earth's surface from the atmosphere, the underground and surface waters, and the glaciers. An outline of the larger physiographic features concludes part I. The second part is devoted to historical geology. The several periods are described in succession, with discussions and illustration of their forms of life. The reader will find a few departures from current practice, such as the subdivision of the Carboniferous period, as ordinarily used, into two, the Mississippian and the Pennsylvanian, the name Carboniferous dropping out. The Lower Cretaceous, as ordinarily described, is made a distinct period and called Comanchean.

The death is reported from Edinburgh of Dr. Alexander Bruce, an eminent specialist in the diseases of the nervous system, and the author of several important books, among them: "Illustrations of Mind and Hind Brain," and "The Topographical Atlas of the Spinal Cord." He also translated Thoma's "Manual of Pathology," and Oppenheim's "Textbook of Nervous Diseases."

Prof. A. E. Törnebohm, the Swedish geologist, is dead at the age of seventy-two. He is remembered principally for his studies on the iron mines of Sweden and on Portland cement.

Drama and Music

The Origin of Tragedy. By William Ridgeway, Sc. D., F. B. A. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$2.25 net.

Less than a generation ago, a classical scholar who ventured, like Andrew Lang, to illustrate Greek customs and Greek religious ritual by analogies with other primitive peoples, was regarded with suspicion. It was regularly assumed, if not definitely stated, that Greek civilization was set in a vacuum, and that to drag in animism and totemism, to illustrate the Demeter legend by the Pawnees, to say that the prehistoric past of Greece must have had much in common with the present of the lowest and most savage contemporary races, was to be terribly at ease in Zion. The anthropologists and the humanists were working at opposite ends of a tunnel, and very few of the humanists desired to be met half-way. Lang, Frazer's

"Golden Bough," Ridgeway's "Early Age of Greece," Jane Harrison's studies in Greek religion, indicated a reconciliation, which is seen at its happiest in Murray's "Rise of the Greek Epic." Naturally, the anthropological humanists differ as much as the anthropologists themselves. Lang leans to totemism and taboos; Reinach makes totemism secondary to animism and the worship of the dead, to which he ascribes all that is deep and essential in religion.

Applying what is known as the anthropological method to test the traditional theory of the origin of Greek tragedy, the professor of archaeology in the University of Cambridge decides that tragedy arose solely from the worship of the dead. His "Tomb Theory" has for some years been familiar to scholars, but in the present volume he offers it for the first time to the general reader. That Greek tragedy was Dionysiac in origin, an expansion of the dithyramb sung and danced by the worshippers of the Thracian god Dionysus; that it represented the sufferings of the wandering, immigrant god, whereas comedy sprang from the more licentious aspects of the cult; that the invasion of the heroic saga into the theatre was regarded as a slight to Dionysus and was resented by Athenian conservatives in the question, "What has this to do with Dionysus?" which passed into a proverb; that when Euripides, at the end of his life, wrote the "Bacchæ," he was reverting to the ancient usage; these are statements that may be found in any history of Greek literature. Aristotle tells us in the "Poetics" that tragedy developed from the earlier and coarser Satyrlic drama, and the scanty evidence for the beginnings of the drama that can be gleaned from the "Poetics" usually passes unquestioned. It will, therefore, be a shock to most scholars to find Mr. Ridgeway dismissing this passage as "Aristotle's error." If Aristotle is right, Ridgeway's ingenious structure falls to the ground. He believes that Greek tragedy did not arise in the cult of a deity, but rather from beliefs respecting the dead as widespread as the human race itself, beliefs which, in Greece, were manifest in the cult of the local hero, the rites performed at the hero's tomb. Tragedy is a form of hero-worship.

Aristotle once out of the way, Ridgeway easily discards another famous passage in which Herodotus (v, 67), relates how Cleisthenes of Sicyon, jealous of the worship paid at the shrine of the Argive Adrastus, whose misfortunes were celebrated "in tragic choruses," "restored," or "assigned" these dances to Dionysus. Ridgeway, whose theory demands that the worship of the hero shall antedate that of the Thracian god, translates *ἀνέθηκε* "assigned," and asserts that previous translators have ignored the fact that "when Herodotus uses *ἀνέθηκεν* in the sense of 'restore,' he adds *ἐκ νέου*"

(page 28). He fails to point out that in the same passage Herodotus uses the uncompounded verb *idone* for the honors of ritual assigned to Melanippus. Moreover, his statement about Herodotus's use of *anodibous* is incorrect. However, his case need not rest on the interpretation of this passage, which to be strictly fair, he should rule out as ambiguous. Instead of this, he proceeds, exactly like an Homeric critic, to use as positive evidence an arbitrary interpretation, and alludes throughout to the superimposition of the Dionysiac cult on the more ancient cult of Adrastus at Sicyon as an established fact. Just so he assumes as proved by himself, in defiance of Brugmann, that the choruses of Attic tragedy are not really in the Doric dialect, as has been taken for granted, but are "old Attic." This is in order to do away with the theory of the Dorian origin of tragedy and the development of the dithyramb by Arion.

But his most convincing evidence is drawn from the extant tragedies. There we find the prominence of the tomb, its use as an altar, libations to the dead, the use of graves as sanctuaries, the importance of ghosts to the community, as in the "Persæ," all indicating the primitive worship of the dead. Where there is no tomb you find the Kommos, which we must now regard as one of the most primitive elements in tragedy. Since the dead could affect the fortunes of the living, it was natural that tragedy should become an official function long before comedy, which was the offspring of the new and unclean cult of Dionysus. For we may note that Ridgeway is careful to ignore the tragic side of the worship of Dionysus, the aspect emphasized, for instance, by Pater in his "Greek Studies." How far Ridgeway's theory may carry one is shown by his statement that "Euripides wrote the 'Hippolytus' from the standpoint of one who was composing a drama to honor and propitiate the illustrious dead" (p. 147); on the "Rhesus," he says (p. 150): "No more fitting piece than the 'Rhesus' could be found for the glorification and propitiation of the spirit of Rhesus at his shrine in Thrace."

Ridgeway's theory is highly ingenious and he handles his material as ably as Verrall himself, in the act of discovering some totally new meaning for a Greek masterpiece. Both assume a conspiracy of silence among the Greeks in which we find it hard to believe. Ridgeway devotes only fifteen pages to analogies of the drama among savage tribes, such as the Malays, the Veddas of Ceylon, and the Tibetan Mystery Plays, and, in the cases cited it is not always clear that these performances are intended to propitiate the spirits of the dead. The chief value of the book lies in this, that even though scholars may not generally accept this view of the direct descent of tragedy from hero-worship, they are not

likely to neglect for the future that pre-occupation of the Greek mind with the hero-cult of which there is such strong evidence in the remains of Greek tragedy.

To the three plays by J. M. Synge, which they have already issued, John W. Luce & Co. of Boston, will add this month "In the Shadow of the Glen," the one-act tragedy which Mrs. Fiske produced the past season, and "The Playboy of the Western World."

Henrietta Crosman will be seen in a new play next season. It was written by Catherine Chisholm Cushing, and was produced at the end of last season by Miss Crosman on the road, under the name of "The Peacock and the Goose." When it is played at the Maxine Elliott Theatre this autumn it will be called "The Real Thing." Another play by Miss Cushing, called "Miss Ananias," will open in Chicago in September, with Adelaide Thurston in the leading part.

Anton Tchekov's "Cherry Orchard" did not make a favorable impression upon London critics on its first production at the Aldwych Theatre by the Stage Society. Says one:

At the beginning of the second act, a German governess industriously informed the audience—apparently her most intimate friends—that she didn't know who she was or what she was there for. The spectators, in a still worse dilemma (since they didn't know who anybody on the stage was or what anybody on the stage was there for), must have heartily sympathized, and here lay the root of the afternoon's failure. To begin to understand Tchekov, you must grow a beard under the Czar. He is as intimately Russian as a cow is bovine, and you can no more translate the one into English than you can transmute the other into a sheep.

It is said, however, that Bernard Shaw characterized the production to Mrs. Edward Garnett, the translator, as the most important in England since that of "A Doll's House."

Gustav Mahler's last compositions are now in press. They include his ninth symphony and a cycle of songs for alto and tenor, with orchestral accompaniment, entitled "Song of the Earth." A prominent German critic, Paul Schwers, has expressed the opinion that the most valuable of Mahler's compositions are his various songs with orchestra, especially some settings of the "Wunderhorn" poems "which are gems of musical miniature painting. The treatment of the orchestra, which, in general, was one of the brightest sides of Mahler's accomplishments, attains in these songs a delicacy of coloring surpassing that of all others who have composed things of this kind." Another eminent German critic, Dr. Leopold Schmidt, writes that "Mahler's songs are a sort of specialty; most of them have an orchestral accompaniment. A peculiarly fine poetic fragrance pervades them; their source is folksong, modified by a strong personal temperament. The songs of 'Des Knaben Wunderhorn' and the 'Kindertotenlieder' will live when many things that now are sung will have passed away." As a symphonist, he was influenced by Schubert and the Austrian folk music, but he impressed his individual genius on his works, and in turn is now influencing others. "Whatever Mahler wrote not only looks well on pa-

per, but sounds well, no matter how bizarre and complicated his procedure may be. He has thus really created an orchestral style of his own, which is already beginning to form a school. He was inexhaustible in his combinations of an intimate or piquant character, which could not but gratify even the most jaded musical epicures."

The first of this month Adelina Patti gave a concert at the Royal Albert Hall, London, for the benefit of William Ganz, who for forty years had been her accompanist, and who has now been disabled by an accident.

Richard Strauss has denied the rumor that he intends to write an opera in collaboration with D'Annunzio. His next large work, his friends say, is to be a symphonic poem with chorus.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra ended its ninety-ninth season with a concert conducted by Nikisch, with Katharine Goodson as soloist. The hundredth season of this famous orchestra begins on November 7 with Mengelberg as conductor and Rachmaninoff as soloist.

The Spaniards have been enjoying a "Festival Wagner" at Barcelona, where the four Nibelung operas and "Tannhäuser" and "Tristan and Isolde" were each performed four times within a month at the Gran Teatro del Liceo. This theatre holds 3,600 hearers, yet it was sold out for nearly every one of these twenty-four performances. They were conducted by Professor Kochler of Schwerin, but the singers used the Italian language.

According to John Towers of St. Louis, who has compiled a dictionary which mentions 28,000 operatic works, the most prolific of all composers for the stage was an Austrian, Wenzel Müller, whose operatic output included no fewer than 166 works. Next to him are Draghi, whose figure is 149; Piccini, who wrote 145 operas; Paisiello 123, Guglielmi 114, Galuppi 109, Offenbach 103, Sir Henry Bishop 102.

"We liked the music of 'The Count of Luxembourg' better than that of any musical play, English or Austrian, of the last few years," says the London *Times* of the latest production of Lehar, whose "Merry Widow" started the amazing series of works which have once more made Vienna the world's operetta centre, as in the days of Johann Strauss, Suppé, and Millöcker. The plot consists in a grand duke's wanting to marry Angèle Didier, the opera singer. But she must have a title before the Czar will consent. Therefore, the bankrupt Bohemian Count of Luxembourg shall be offered \$100,000 to marry her without seeing her, shall leave her on the spot, and be divorced from her in three months. He consents, and then, of course, he and Angèle Didier meet and fall in love.

Raoul Laparra, the composer of a gruesome opera, "La Habanera," which has had some success abroad, intends to tour America next autumn to earn money enough for a year's residence in Japan, in which country he intends to place his next opera.

If Henry Russell carries out his scheme of taking the Boston Opera Company to Paris next spring for a series of French performances, he intends to have the composers conduct their own works whenever possible.

As Nikisch, who is undoubtedly the greatest orchestral leader of the time, can get only five weeks' leave of absence, he will be heard in only sixteen American cities during his American concert tour with the London Symphony Orchestra, beginning next April. The tour will begin in New York, and end in Boston; it will extend as far West as Chicago, and will include two Canadian cities.

John Oliver Francis, musician and composer, is dead at Plainfield, Conn., after a long illness of the brain.

Johan Severin Svendsen, the Norwegian composer, who is best known through his romance in G major for the violin, died last week in Copenhagen. He was born in Christiania, in 1840, where his father was a military bandmaster. He was taught to play the violin by his father, and wrote his first composition for that instrument when only eleven years of age. He studied in Leipzig, and while there he wrote his quartet in A, an octet, and a quintet, all for strings, quartets for male voices, and a symphony in D. Later he arranged the incidental music to Coppée's "Le Passant," in which both Sarah Bernhardt and Agar performed, and studies by Liszt and Schubert. Early in 1871, his symphony in D was performed at the Gewandhaus, Weimar, and his fame as a composer was firmly established. He met Wagner at Bayreuth, and soon became his close associate. For the five years, 1872-77, he was conductor of the Christiania Musical Association, and in that period was granted an annuity by the Storting, and several decorations by the king. Svendsen was one of the most cosmopolitan composers of his time.

Art

THE PARIS SALONS.

PARIS, June 10.

In England it is said that if only the state gave its patronage to art, all would be right with the artist. In France the state plays the patron, commanding big decorations and acquiring works at the large exhibitions; but all is not right with the artist by a good deal. He knows his trade better than the artist in England, his knowledge is sounder, he is much less afraid of hard work, and has far more vigor to put into it. But he seems to be passing through a moment when he has no special use to make of his admirable craftsmanship and energy, no special personality—or individuality, or originality, or whatever the great essential of all may be called—to express. To pass through the two Salons, with their rows upon rows of *machines*, their thousands of well-executed canvases turned out according to old out-worn patterns, is to understand, even to sympathize, with the wildest flights of the *Indépendants* on the Quai d'Orsay. It is in the endeavor to escape from the benumbing, stultifying grasp of convention that they have built up their impossible fig-

ures in cubes like a mathematical problem, and painted their purple and crimson nudes in the light that never shone on sea or shore or even in the studio, and dyed their horses with saffron, and distorted their portraits into caricatures that would be more in place with the *Humoristes* at the Palais de Glace. Though I remember the fate of pictures at the old Salon des Refusés and our scorn to-day for the critics who laughed then, I cannot believe that masterpieces lurk unsuspected among the staring eccentricities of this year's *Indépendants*. But, still, I am not sure that their deliberate and self-conscious strivings after originality have not got more of the right stuff in them than the smug, correct banalities of the artists long since arrived who show in the Champs-Élysées.

There, the new Salon, or Salon of the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts, is the more disappointing because more is expected of it. Signs of fatigue or exhaustion are not only in the work shown, but in the work not shown. The Spaniards, headed by Anglada and Zuloaga, have disappeared. So have Zorn and most of the Scandinavians. The distinguished Germans have for some years ceased to contribute. Frenchmen like Cottet and Simon, whose work of late has been one of its chief interests, are absent altogether. Jean Veber, who recently has given to the collection a note of gayety, has nothing either among the paintings or the prints. Even Carolus-Duran fails to send, for the first time in the quarter of a century during which I have made regularly my annual visit to the Salons. Of the men who do send, there are few who have not been seen to better advantage in previous exhibitions. Besnard has a huge design, part of a ceiling for the Théâtre Français—one of those enormous compositions from which the British artist would shrink in fear but which the French artist undertakes as a matter of course, and moreover in possession of the necessary skill and strength for their accomplishment. As it is seen here, however, merely a fragment or a part, the composition does not explain itself. I hesitate, as with Sargent's lunette at the Royal Academy, to pronounce an opinion. In the centre of the design Corneille, Racine, Molière, and Hugo, treated heroically, are seated; to the right, Adam and Eve are tempted by the serpent, with the head and body of Lilith; to the left, allegoric figures are tumbling through space. As it is thus seen, apart from the other sections of the ceiling, the artist's intention and scheme are not clear, while the foreshortening, when the panel is hung as a picture, becomes unpleasantly violent and destroys the serenity and dignity of a decoration that must be set up in its appointed place before it can be appreciated. It may

result from long work on this and similar designs, and the necessity of adapting his eyes to their perspective, that Besnard seems to have seen with something of the same foreshortening the figure in the portrait of a man which is his one other contribution.

Still, there are no decorative designs that can compete with his. Anquetin's *La Bourgogne*, expressed in Rubenesque forms and rococo ornament, and Roll's *Le Libérateur*, with cloak flying and horse prancing on a vague hilltop, must be carried out in the tapestry for which they are destined before they can be fairly judged. Caro-Delvaile grows frigidly academic when he deserts the "five o'clock" and interiors he knows for a classic group of nudes and semi-nudes, making *L'Offrande des Amants*, of which he knows nothing. Gillot has broken away sufficiently from tradition to find a theme for his *Panneau Décoratif* in the smoking chimneys and massive works of the modern industrial landscape, though he has not found with it the rhythmical lines and the harmonious color that are there for the artist with eyes to see and are indispensable to fine decoration. However, it is stimulating to come upon work that reveals at least some independence and freshness of vision and motive. Repetition enfeebles, and men, who started out not so long ago with subjects and methods that commanded attention and appealed to the imagination by their new interpretation of old problems, have repeated themselves until their designs are apt to be passed by now with the one criticism, "Connus." For instance, Gaston La Touche, commissioned by Mr. and Mrs. McDougall Hawkes of New York to decorate a library and by "M. C." to decorate a vestibule, has produced two panels that may tell admirably when each fills the space assigned to it, but that at the Salon seem merely variations of the theme that has preoccupied him for several years past. Aman-Jean, for two of his designs, has sought his models in the circus, or the side-shows, an unexpected departure from the land of leisure and elegance where his anæmic beauties droop and fade. But he has taken with him the old, pale, rose-tinged scheme and given to his new models the phantom-like forms of the weary ladies who trail their draperies and pose wearily among the flowers and foliage of his parks and gardens.

It is not solely in decorative work that repetition has had so pernicious an influence. The portraits suffer scarcely less. Had fashion not changed in the meanwhile, Boldini's three large full-lengths of women might be the same that have hung on the same walls, spring after spring, for years past: marvels of technique, amazingly clever, character exaggerated into caricature, the vagaries of the mode insisted upon

until the pictures seem huge and sublimated fashion plates, and not one word to say of them that has not already been said spring after spring. Gandara's sitters disappear in his records of the elegance and *chic* of fashion as cultivated by the Parisienne; and though for his *Blanche* an Eastern dancer has posed, he has not availed himself of his opportunities with conspicuous triumph. It is the same with the landscape painters; at one extreme, Ménard, re-creating, if on a larger scale, his own idealized hills and waters; at the other, Lhermitte, showing again the familiar river bank and ferry, fields and skies, with the realism to which he has too long been faithful. Already Le Sidaner appears to be at a loss for inspiration and returns to the little empty court and the table with its white cloth, all shadowy in the fading daylight, by which he originally won fame at the Salon, but from which something of the first subtle charm he gave to the place and the hour has passed. Better is an arrangement of several little tables set out in front of white and rose-flushed houses, with, beyond to the right, a stretch of dim blue water; though here too the effect depends upon the mingling of the fading daylight and the light burning within the houses and seen through a window or a glass door, as it has already been seen in so many of his paintings. Morrice has before this recorded much such elusive impressions as he now shows of the sea at St. Malo, the walk on the cliffs at Dieppe, and snow at Quebec; though he does so with a delicacy and harmony of color that repetition cannot quite stale. Myron Barlow evidently is conscious of the danger if he continues to linger over-long in his cool low-toned rooms with the soberly-robed women who work or rest there in a tranquillity that is almost statuesque. In two canvases he keeps to his favorite scheme; in a third, one of the tranquil women has wandered as shepherdess into a cool green wood with which her cloak is in pleasant harmony. This harmony is perhaps too obviously found, the landscape background too obviously built up, in the studio, but it has helped the painter to escape from the bonds of a hard and fast formula. Frieseke, in *Jeu-nesse*, paints a dressing room or *boudoir* filled with the elaborate hangings and stuffs and toilet paraphernalia he loves, the figures of the two girls posing in their midst becoming, as he sees them, but part of a graceful arrangement of still life. From this artificial atmosphere, which he understands and suggests with charm, he takes the bracing plunge he needs into the real open-air work in two studies of sunlight.

For careful observation, direct rendering, and amusing design, nothing interested me more than Hochard's impressions of the world and the people

he knows. His men and women live on his canvas, and yet they are made part of a well-thought-out scheme of line and color. He has not had to arrange his Prussian officers and French soldiers in his studio, but painting them as he may have stumbled upon them by chance in their own surroundings, he has woven a really beautiful pattern from the repeated lines of gold given by the Prussian helmets and the repeated spaces of red by the French trousers. There is character in Charles Guérin's portrait of a lean, scrawny woman, *L'Echarpe Rose*, though his technique, the curious tapestry-like texture he gives to his paint, I must confess, annoys me; nor can I believe that character is only to be rendered by emphasizing all that is most ugly and ungainly in a sitter. Maurice Denis, for the moment, has left the decorative world of myth and fable to study the very real effects of light upon sea and beach and bathers. I am not sure that his primitiveness is so well adapted to these subjects; the naïveté with which he paints his women and children at the seashore seems at times a trifle strained. But there is no question of the truth of the atmosphere that envelops them and of the quality of their flesh steeped in sunlight; nor, indeed, when the figures are clothed, of the decorative value in the composition of the stiff, archaic folds of their drapery. Beyond these things I saw little worth recording, save, perhaps, the *Marché Noir au Sénégal* by Antoni, put in with vigor and some feeling for character; the rich, radiant landscapes of Flandrin, artificial in the shapes of the trees and their rendering, but so vivid that the near pictures fade into empty shadows by comparison; and the streets of Paris by E. Scott, rather feebly constructed, it is true, but not without conscientious searching for color and tone. The crowd, not of my mind, still gathers in preference about the neatly-told anecdotes in paint by Jean Béraud and the humorous tales by Guillaume.

Of the paintings at the old Salon, it is useless for me to say much. Why repeat what I have so often written of Bonnat's truth, almost photographic, in the portraits in which his one background has become as inevitable as once was the photographer's rustic bridge; or of the two Bails and their arrangements of brass and linen; or of Harpignies and Pointelin? Pointelin's empty moorland grows emptier with time, that is the sole difference; but Harpignies this year has evolved a new arrangement of trees and sacrificed nothing of the dignity of his landscapes in doing so. Henri Martin, whose work is usually one of the redeeming features of this Salon, has nothing. The Spaniards who show with the *Artistes Français* have lost something of the animation that often made their big canvases

a welcome relief to the prevailing commonplace. Zo remains the most interesting, though not so much in his big canvas, with its now familiar Spanish types, as in a little *Cordova*, with a tender beauty in the distant hills and the sky that he has not accustomed us to look for in his pictures. The Americans, too, are less prominent. Richard Miller's *La Toilette*, a subject in which he, like Frieseke, delights, has fine passages in the painting of the delicate hangings and the rich silk gown. A portrait of President Taft by Madame de Wentworth is successful chiefly for evading all expression of the character in which surely her sitter is not generally supposed to be wanting. Though good things may be hidden away in the miles of canvases, I recall nothing else important enough for special mention. An idea of the dulness of the exhibition will be given if I add that its *clou* is Grun's enormous *Vendredi au Salon des Artistes Français*, in which, I believe, the many figures crowding the foreground are portraits—the sort of work that, done on a small scale and reproduced in an illustrated paper, would have had perhaps the value of news and the spice of personality.

The standard of the sculpture is higher. There seems a genuine demand for sculpture in France as well as sculptors fully equipped to supply it. But here, too, the conditions of the big modern exhibition force the exhibitors into excesses, and in their strenuous bid for notoriety, allegory runs riot and action is exaggerated. Of special interest to Americans is MacMonnies's fountain for Denver. Not the allegory, but the life of Colorado has been his inspiration. The hunter and miner, the woman of the pioneer and all the figures that adorn it belong to the country as truly as the youths of the frieze of the Parthenon belonged to Greece. In the new Salon Rodin's bust of the Duc de Rohan is as vigorous a piece of work as he has exhibited for some time, the head noble and dignified, the modelling expressive, the character strong. Striking, too, is Bourdelle's bust of Charles-Louis Philippe, the face lined and tired, unmistakably a portrait. His bronze of a young girl has more charm and grace than, as a rule, he tries for in his work.

The drawings and prints have been more remarkable. Some of the draughtsmen are claimed by the Humoristes whose exhibition, close by, is open just now and so a rival. Etchers and lithographers keep much of their best work for the shows of their own societies. The old Salon continues to devote most space to the reproductive men. Original etchers and lithographers are few. Among the wood-engravers, I found neither Cole nor Wolf. At the new Salon Bauer has three of his impressive etchings of Oriental subjects by which he helps one to forget that

the large plate is "an offence," though, that it is, a reminder follows quickly in the big sprawling prints of Chabine. Louis Legrand has a group of his masterly dry-points, always interesting technically, but varying little in motive, and also an etching printed in color which is used sparingly and as it should be in a few simple touches and flat spaces—a reproach to the manufacturers of the huge elaborated color prints now produced by the hundreds, simply in deference to a passing fad or fashion. If Veber does not exhibit, there are echoes of him in the work of Le Petit, who pays him that undesirable form of flattery said to be the most sincere. Florian and Lepère are both well represented. The sky-scrapers of New York figure in plates by W. Hale and H. Webster, and D. S. MacLaughlin sends three prints, in the Alps, in Venice, and on the Thames. N. N.

Finance

THE GOVERNMENT THREE PER CENTS.

Saturday's sale by the United States government of \$50,000,000 fifty-year 3 per cent. bonds to the highest bidders, was in two ways an interesting landmark in our national finance. It is the first bond issue since the Spanish war to bear a higher interest rate than 2 per cent., and it is the first since the National Bank act of 1863 in which the value of the bonds was not artificially enhanced by their privileges of use by national banks as security for note circulation. In both respects these new bonds embody the policy advocated "in his first annual report by Secretary MacVeagh. In December, 1909, the Secretary declared that it was, in his judgment, "high time for the government to realize that it does not have a 2 per cent. borrowing power and has never had," and he added that "no government, however rich, has a 2 per cent. borrowing power," and that "possibly it would have been better never to have issued 2 per cent. bonds, or bonds at any rate of interest below the borrowing power of the government in the open investment market."

The Secretary did not mean that 2 per cent. bonds had not recently been sold at par or better; the Panama Canal has thus far been financed on that basis, so far as it was financed by loans, and another 2 per cent. issue might possibly have been placed this month, had the bonds retained the "circulation privilege." But it has long been recognized that this use of government bonds gave a wholly artificial price to them. The fact that the government's borrowing power was thus artificially supported on the market was stated, some years ago

by so impartial a foreign critic as M. Leroy-Beaulieu, as an apparently hopeless obstacle to the placing of the bank-note currency on a scientific basis. He argued that to dispense with the "circulation privilege" and assign some other basis for the currency, would make it impossible for the Treasury to borrow on 2 per cents, except at a price of 90 or less, and he inferred that any such step would be opposed in the interest of the government.

But it was an equally significant result of our old system of bond-secured banknotes that the circulation itself could never normally expand and contract under such machinery. It has been the history of that circulation, almost from the start, that its outstanding volume has increased or decreased, not in accordance with the general trade activity or inactivity of a given year, and not even in response to the normal fluctuation of trade demands for circulating medium at different seasons, but almost exclusively according as the government was issuing new bonds or redeeming old ones. In seasons of intense business activity the Federal revenue would invariably increase; the outlet for an unwieldy surplus was redemption of debt. But re-purchase of outstanding bonds meant removal of the collateral against existing bank circulation, and thus it happened that the currency supply repeatedly decreased when the need for it in trade was at the maximum. Conversely, when trade was dull and the public revenue deficient, new government bond issues would often be the sequel. Since the banks were almost the only customers for sales of 2 per cents at the prevalent fictitious price, and since these banks had little use for the bonds, except for the purpose of increasing their circulation, it also followed that the currency frequently would expand when the need for it was actually diminishing. Such expansion, in the face of the slack demand from our present inactive trade, would undoubtedly have followed the sale of \$50,000,000 2 per cents, this month, with the "circulation privilege."

It was this abnormal situation with which the Treasury undertook to deal, and Saturday's 3 per cent. loan offering was the first step. Naturally, under such circumstances, great interest was bound to converge on the question what price the new bonds could command, without that artificial privilege, and who would take them. The Treasury has now examined Saturday's tenders, and it appears that the price of the bids ranged from a fraction above 102 to a fraction above 103, and that the average price for the actual allotments will be somewhere around 102¼.

This may fairly be called a very successful sale. It is not perhaps a wholly accurate measure of the government's future borrowing power, since,

in the first place, a period of trade depression, large accumulations of idle money, and distaste for stock speculation, is exceptionally favorable to the market for "gilt-edged" bonds, and, in the second place, the new 3 per cents still enjoy indirectly part of the "circulation privilege." They cannot be used as security for new banknotes, but they may be exchanged, by a bank which holds them, for such of the \$63,000,000 outstanding 3 per cents of 1898 as may be lodged in other quarters than the national banks. There are something like \$40,000,000 of those bonds in that position.

But whether it is or is not premature to assume that the United States will hereafter be able to sell its 3 per cents at 102 or 103, the price obtained in this sale makes possible some interesting comparisons. The banking syndicate which financed the Treasury's gold reserve in the desperate days of February, 1895, on the basis of a 4 per cent. loan at an exceedingly low price, offered par for 3 per cents, if made expressly payable in gold. The 3 per cent. War Loan of July, 1898, was offered at par and enormously oversubscribed; the bonds sold on the open market at 112 a year or so afterward. In both these instances the "circulation privilege" was an element in the calculation. If that is allowed for, it may be said that the price of this month's 3 per cent. loan is far higher than that proposed in 1895 and not so very much lower than the market price of the older 3 per cents in 1899 and 1900.

Not less interesting is comparison of these bids for our 3 per cents, on a legitimate investment footing, with the price of European national securities. The 3 per cent. *rentes* of France bring this week about 95% on the Paris market; German Imperial 3 per cents sell at 82½, and British 2½ per cent. consols at 79%. Along with the recent advance of 3 or 4 per cent. in the price of New York city bonds, the outcome of Saturday's sale may be taken as indicating a sound condition of the general investment market.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

- Armitage, L. Introduction to the Study of Old High German. Frowde.
Beach, J. W. The Comic Spirit in George Meredith. Longmans. \$1.25 net.
Benett, W. Justice and Happiness. Frowde.
Bowen, M. Defender of the Faith. Dutton. \$1.35 net.
Boutroux, E. William James. Paris: A Colin. 3 francs.
Brieux. Three Plays. Preface by B. Shaw. Brentano. \$1.50 net.
Brunot, F. Histoire de la Langue Française—Tome III (2e). Paris: A. Colin. 7.50 francs.
Burdett's Hospitals and Charities, 1911. London: The Scientific Press, Ltd.
Carlyle's Essay on Burns. Edited, with notes, by E. L. Miller. American Book Co.
Chuquet, A. Lettres de 1812 (1st series). Lettres de 1815 (1st series). 2 vols. Paris: H. Champion. 3.50 francs each.

Cicero's Orations. Recognovit Albertus Curtis Clark. Frowde.
Cicero's Orations. Recognovit Gulielmus Peterson. Frowde.
Collier, P. England and the English from an American Point of View. Scribner. 75 cents net.
Coulevain, P. de. The Unknown Isle. Translated from the French by A. Hallard. Cassell & Co. \$1.35 net.
Davis, S. B. The Power of Conscience. Stuyvesant Press. \$1 net.
Delzons, L. Le Cœur se trompe. Paris: Calmann-Lévy. 3:50 francs.
Duryea, N. L. The House of the Seven Gables. Appleton. \$1.25 net.
Eliot's Silas Marner. Edited by M. McKittrick. American Book Co.
Faguet, E. Vie de Rousseau. Paris: Société Française d'Imprimerie et de Librairie.
Fillmore, P. H. The Young Idea: a Neighborhood Chronicle. Lane. \$1.25 net.
Foster, W. The English Factories in India. Vol. v. 1634-1636. Frowde. \$4.15.
Fowle, F. E. Smithsonian Physical Tables. Fifth Revised Edition. Washington: Smithsonian Institution.
Gazier, G. Lettres inédites du Poète Roumain Basile Alecsandri à Edouard Grenier. Paris: H. Champion.
Gerschel, J., and Fisher, W. R. Vocabulaire Forestier. Frowde. \$1.75 net.
Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield. Edited by A. F. Hansen. American Book Co.
Gromatre, G. La Littérature Patriotique en Allemagne (1800-1815). Paris: A. Colin. 3:50 francs.

Hardy, E. G. Six Roman Laws. Translated with intro. and notes. Frowde.
Howell, W. D. Parting Friends: a Farce. Harper. 50 cents.
Hoyer, M. A., and Heppel, M. L. The Welsh Border, Its Churches, Castles, and Dyke. London: Nutt.
Humbert de Gallier. Les Mœurs et la Vie Privée d'autrefois. Paris: Calmann-Lévy. 3:50 francs.
Jeremias, A. The Old Testament in the Light of the Ancient East. English edition. 2 vols. Putnam.
Johnson, A. The Almshouse. Charities Pub. Com. \$1.25.
Kidd, B. J. Documents Illustrative of the Continental Reformation. Frowde.
Lami, M. and L. Rouanet. Mémoires du Capitán Alonso de Contreras (from the Spanish). Paris: H. Champion.
Lincoln, J. C. The Woman-Haters. Appleton. \$1.25 net.
Lytton, Mrs. N. Toy Dogs and Their Ancestors. Appleton.
Mozans, H. J. Along the Andes and Down the Amazon. Appleton.
Onions, O. The Exception. Lane. \$1.50.
Page, G. Winding Paths. Appleton. \$1.25 net.
Pemberton, M. White Motley. Sturgis & Walton. \$1.30 net.
Putnam, R. William the Silent, Prince of Orange (1533-84). Putnam.
Rand-McNally Pocket Map and Shippers' Guide—Illinois; Massachusetts; Maryland and Delaware; Pennsylvania. Chicago.
Read, M. S. An Introductory Psychology. Boston: Ginn. \$1.

Russier, H. and H. Brenier. L'Indochine Française. Paris: A. Colin. 4 francs.
Schäffer, M. T. S. Old Indian Trails. Putnam.
Scherer, C. Études Françaises et Anglaises. Frowde.
Seignobos, Ch. Histoire Moderne (1715-1815)—5 francs. Histoire Contemporaine (since 1815)—5.50 francs. Histoire Ancienne (Orient)—4 francs. Paris: A. Colin.
Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice. Edited with notes, by G. S. Blakely. American Book Co.
Solenberger, A. W. One Thousand Homeless Men. Charities Pub. Com. \$1.25.
Taylor, F. W. Shop Management. Harper. \$1.50 net.
Thomas, A. B. Moore en France. Paris: H. Champion.
Thomson, W. M. The Land and the Book, or, Biblical Illustrations Drawn from the Manners and Customs of the Holy Land. Harper. \$2.40 net.
Vogüé, Vte, E. M. de. Trois Drames de l'histoire de Russie. Paris: A. Colin. 3:50 francs.
Washington's Farewell Address. Notes by W. D. Lewis. American Book Co.
Whitney, C. Jungle Trails and Jungle People. Harper. \$3 net.
Winterburn, F. H. Vacation Hints. Fifth Avenue Book Co. 25 cents.
Yolanda. Le Chrysanthème Rose (from the Italian). Paris: A. Colin. Blue collection. 3:50 francs.
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